Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

75¢

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Steady decline seen in Rota Head Start enrollment. PAGE 3
'Multiple deficiencies uncovered in 9 areas at CHC' PAGE 6

# Tapah to graze Saipan, Tinian today

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» Public school classes on Tinian, Saipan cancelled

Saipan and Tinian are expected to experience heavy rains and strong winds today, Tuesday, as Tropical Storm Tapah continues to intensify and may reach typhoon intensity and pass near both islands by noon.

See TAPAH on Page 4

## EL NIÑO WATCH

### Will the CNMI have an active typhoon season?

Very few typhoons have passed through the populated islands of the CNMI over the past decade. Residents have been blessed with a Pacific Ocean dominated by neutral conditions, and the occasional La Niña, which can suppress the formation of tropical cyclones in areas that lead them to the Marianas. Unfortunately that trend may come to an end this year. There is growing confidence that we will have El Niño conditions, which has the exact opposite effect on typhoons: it increases our chances of

See TYPHOON on Page 4

**A SAFETY REMINDER**
Ideal Signs employees prepare to install on Capital Hill yesterday a new public safety sign promoting the use of seatbelts while driving or riding in motor vehicles. Gov. Eloy S. Inos recently proclaimed May 1 to June 1 "Click It or Ticket Mobilization Campaign" Month, which emphasizes the regular use of seatbelts as the single most effective way to reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

# 'Referendum threat turned off investor'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» Lottery Commission meets on May 1 to discuss casino applications

Senate vice president Victor Hocog (R-Rota) said yesterday that the investor group that invited and paid for his and other CNMI officials' trip to Hong Kong and Macau months ago was put off partly by a threat of a casino referendum even after a Saipan casino bill already became law and the bad publicity about legalizing casino gaming so it didn't apply for a license to exclusively develop a casino resort on Saipan.

Meanwhile, the Lottery Commission will meet on Thursday afternoon to formally tackle for the first time the two Saipan casino applications that the Inos administration hopes would help spur economic activities in the CNMI after years of stagnation.

Hocog

Hocog said Esteem Capital had planned to invest close to $3 billion in the CNMI for an integrated casino resort development.

With Esteem Capital not participating in the Saipan casino application process, it has not indicated whether it will pursue investing in other projects in the CNMI, Hocog added.

Esteem Capital's recent partnership

See REFERENDUM on Page 4

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BEFORE THE CW PROGRAM EXPIRES ON DEC. 31, 2014

OPINION METER
This week's poll:
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INSIDE

NATION

A tornado system rips through the central U.S. and leaves at least 12 dead.
➤ PAGE 14

LIFE & STYLE

A recent study confirms that people's love for cats is unrequited.
➤ PAGE 20

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# Local

THOMAS A. MANGLONA

**ESGR AWARDEE**
Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Esther Muña, second from right, and the nominator, Flight Surgeon John Tudela, right, pose for a photo with other awardees after receiving the State Chair's Above and Beyond Award at the annual Employer Awards dinner hosted by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve for Guam and the CNMI at the Saipan World Resort.

# Man gets 30-day prison term for domestic violence

## » Victim later marries defendant

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has imposed a 30-day prison term on a compliance officer of the Department of Commerce who was found guilty of assaulting his then common-law wife in front of their daughter at their home in Kagman.

The victim gave a statement during sentencing that she and the defendant, Erwin Paul Togawa, were married after he committed the crimes and that they have been together for many years. The wife also stated that Togawa is a good father, husband, and provider to the family.

In a written order yesterday, Wiseman sentenced the 42-year-old Togawa to six months imprisonment, all suspended except for 30 days, for assault, and three months in prison for disturbing the peace.

Wiseman said the sentences shall run concurrently, which means that the total prison term is 30 days, with credit for six days of time served.

At his sentencing, Togawa expressed remorse and apologized for his actions.

Assistant attorney general Chemere McField recommended a six-month prison term. Court-appointed defense counsel Mark Hanson recommended a probation sentence.

Wiseman said he has considered the mitigating factors, including the fact that Togawa has no criminal history, but he must also weigh these against the aggravating factors, which included the fact that Togawa's acts were committed in the presence of a child.

"In view of defendant's actions herein, the court can not depreciate the seriousness of the crime," Wiseman said.

The judge said that in view of Togawa's need to support his family and the good job he has and for other good causes, the defendant is allowed to serve the prison term on weekends.

Togawa was ordered to report to the Department of Corrections on May 3, 2014, at 7am and shall be released on May 5, 2014 at 7am. Wiseman said Togawa shall continue the same schedule thereafter every weekend.

The judge said Togawa may, at any time serve more than his two-day weekend schedule but the two-day weekend shall be the minimum.

After completing the prison term, Togawa will be placed on probation for one year. He was required to pay a $100 fine and $25 court assessment fee, plus probation fee.

Togawa was ordered to submit to an evaluation by the Community Guidance Center or an alternate program recommended by the Office of Adult Probation, focusing on anger management counseling.

At a bench trial last month, Wiseman determined that the evidence in the case presented proof of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt in the assault and disturbing the peace charges.

The judge, however, acquitted Togawa on a charge of disturbing the peace involving the child, after finding no proof beyond reasonable doubt.

It was supposed to be a jury trial, but a felony charge of assault with a dangerous weapon was later removed from the case. The Office of the Attorney General dropped the charge as the Department of Public Safety could not locate the knife that was allegedly involved in the case.

Police detective Melissa Bauleong stated in her report that, according to the victim, Togawa pulled out a knife from his waist pouch, pointed it at her, and threatened to kill her on Jan. 29, 2013.

Bauleong said the victim stated that their daughter started to cry and covered her head with a blanket.

The victim also told police that during an argument with Togawa on May 10, 2012, she took her daughter and walked out of the house. Togawa allegedly followed them on a car and threatened to run them over if they don't get inside the car. The victim said she later heard the car drive behind her, nearly hitting them.

When police officers arrested Togawa at the Department of Commerce, they reportedly recovered a knife from him.


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# Governor's supplemental budget awaits Mariana House net sales

## »House PUTC chair hopes that $2M-$3M of supplemental budget would go to CUC

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is awaiting confirmation about "net" proceeds from the sale of Mariana House in Washington, D.C., before finalizing his fiscal year 2014 supplemental budget, expected to be between $8 million and $9 million. At the same time, Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) hopes that "at least" $2 million to $3 million of any supplemental budget should be used to pay the government's unpaid utility bills totaling over $22 million.

"It would be a big relief for CUC [Commonwealth Utilities Corp.] customers who don't need to be burdened with rate increase if CUC is paid $2 million to $3 million at least under the supplemental budget rather than wait for the 2015 budget. Everybody would be happy," said Deleon Guerrero, chairman of the House Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee and a member of the House Ways and Means Committee.

But the governor said the supplemental budget is strictly for the additional $5 million needed to complete the $25 million minimum 2014 government payment into the retirement settlement trust fund, and the rest would be for the government health insurance premium payment.

The governor's supplemental budget, however, would be subject to legislative approval.

Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan), like Deleon Guerrero, is considering appropriating some funds to pay portions of what the CNMI government owes CUC in unpaid utility bills.

The committee will be meeting with Finance and Office of Management and Budget officials as early as Wednesday morning to discuss not only the governor's proposed $134 million budget for 2015 but also the expected 2014 supplemental budget.

Inos said he had his proposed 2014 supplemental budget drafted last week but there are still some items he needed to confirm, including net proceeds from the Mariana House sale, before finalizing it.

"I want to know the net proceeds [from the Mariana House sale] because there are expenses [associated with] selling [it]," he said. "It's just that we got to isolate the cost associated with it so they don't appropriate that part. That's the holdup."

The CNMI government sold the Mariana House in Washington, D.C., to a real estate firm for over $900,000, after years of sitting idle since it stopped being the official residence of the CNMI's resident representative to the nation's capital in 2009. The CNMI bought the property for $250,000 to $300,000.

The administration listed the property, located at 2121 R Street NW Washington, D.C., last year.

At the time, its appraised value was between $800,000 and $1 million.

# Steady decline seen in Rota Head Start enrollment

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Enrollment at the Head Start program on Rota has been steadily declining over the years, based on the latest community assessment reported to the State Board of Education yesterday.

The Public School System is now reviewing the option of merging the two centers on the island, which cater to a total of 34 children.

Head Start director Melissa Palacios reported to the board yesterday that the program has two centers on Rota: one in Sinapalo and one in Songsong. Each facility accommodates 17 students in two sessions. Two teachers are presently stationed at these centers, Palacios said.

Based on the result of the community assessment for 2013-2014, the analysis and trends of enrollment on Rota indicated a steady decrease of children ages 3-5 years old.

**» Merger of Songsong, Sinapalo centers eyed**

"With two centers operating with less than 17 [students] per session and a zero income eligible waitlist is an indicator that the Municipality of Rota only needs one center," states the assessment result presented to the board in yesterday's special meeting.

With this disclosure, board member Marylou Ada questioned the rationale behind keeping the two centers if the numbers do not support it. She also expressed concern about the potential exodus of some Head Start children because of the situation of their non-U.S. citizen parents.

"What's the alternative plan? Looking at the data, many of them are kids of CW holders. If they have to exit, I am concerned about our enrollment," said Ada.

In an interview with Palacios yesterday, she *told Saipan Tribune* that PSS was able to fill all the slots for both centers on Rota in school year 2014-2015. However, in the event that some children are withdrawn from the program, there will be no one to fill the vacant slots on the waitlist, she said.

"As a result of the community assessment and our ongoing effort to recruit children, we just don't have the numbers on Rota, although we managed to fill the slots for both centers for school year 2014-2015," said Palacios.

The 2013-2014 community assessment provides updated demographic data and relevant community information to identify the strengths, needs and trends that impact the design and implementation of the Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

Based on the assessment, among the program goals and objectives is to "merge Songsong and Sinapalo centers due to low enrollment numbers, low waitlisted income eligible children and decrease in population." The timeline indicated for this goal is July 2014.

The CNMI Head Start program is mandated a yearly enrollment of 462 students. Per child cost in the program amounts to $4,068. However, Palacios said yesterday that the "per child cost" on Rota exceeds that amount due to some factors, including the high utility expenses for two centers and other related operational expenditures.

For Rota BOE member Tanya King, the idea of shutting down one center will be a disservice to the Rota community.

Even board chair Herman T. Guerrero expressed concern about transportation and other issues if one group of children are transferred to the other center. On the issue of CW holder-parents, Guerrero described the discussion as premature at this time, considering that the matter is a national issue.

# Waterline connection project is a go

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. awarded on April 23, 2014, a $173,621 contract to AIC Marianas Inc. for the construction of the Chalan Kiya-Kannat Tabla Waterline Connection Project.

This project consists of the installation of a new six-inch ductile iron distribution waterline connecting the Kannat Tabla reservoir to the existing Chalan Kiya water distribution main line. Construction will also include the replacement of various gate valves and relocation of water service laterals at designated areas within the Chalan Kiya village.

This waterline improvement project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The project completion date is scheduled for Dec. 19, 2014. CUC will be informing the public and residence within Chalan Kiya when the construction work will begin. ***(CUC)***

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### DPS to close off Marpi on May 1

The Department of Public Safety will be blocking off the northern part of Saipan, from Marpi north, on May 1, 2014, from about 12pm to 3pm. The purpose of this blockage is to dispose of the collection of unexploded ordinance that has been collected by the Department of Public Safety Explosive Response Team.

We are requesting all visitors to these popular areas of the island make arrangements to visit either in the morning before the 12pm deadline or after the operation has completed at 3pm.

Anyone with questions can contact the Explosives Response Team Operational Supervisor, Sgt. Anthony I. Macaranas, at (670) 483-5818. ***(PR)***

### Notice to graduating MHS seniors

To all graduating Marianas High School seniors: Your cap, gown, and tassels are in and available for pick up in the Main Office. Distribution schedule is as follows:

- Last names A – C : April 30
- Last names D – J : May 1
- Last names K – M : May 2
- Last names N – S : May 5
- Last names T – Z : May 6
- Students who did not order, but need graduation items: May 9 (full payment is required)

Pick up times will be from 7:30am to 8:30am and 3pm to 4:30pm. Full payment is required for items to be released. Last day to pick up your items will be on May 7. Items that are not picked up by then will be made available to students who did not get to order in advance. If you are not able to pay by the specified date, make arrangements with Ms. Tudela by calling the Main Office at 237-3206.***(MHS)***

# Payment of $25.6K to Settlement Fund trustee OK'd

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood has ordered the Settlement Fund to pay its trustee, Joyce C.H. Tang, $25,634.25 for professional services and expenses incurred in January and February 2014.

As this developed, Tydingco-Gatewood held a status conference via telephone yesterday about the status of settlement negotiations between the CNMI government and Betty Johnson's counsels pertaining to their petitions for attorney's fees and costs. The judge will hold another status conference on May 5, 2014.

In her order for payment of Tang's invoices, Tydingco-Gatewood said the $25,634.25 represents 90 percent of professional fees and 100 percent of all expenses incurred in January and February 2014.

The judge further ordered the Settlement Fund to hold in trust to the credit of the trustee $2,848, which represents 10 percent of the trustee's professional fees for this time period.

Tang requested for compensation in the amounts of $16,582.50 and $11,900 in professional services, for a total of $28,482.50, for the months of January and February 2014 respectively.

Tang also asked for compensation in the amounts of $1,263.07 and $461.29 in expenses, for a total of $1,724.36, for January and February 2014 respectively.

Tang's total request for payments of professional services and expenses is $30,206.86.

In her order, Tydingco-Gatewood said she has reviewed the invoices and finds the request for compensation and reimbursement of expenses to be reasonable.

Tydingco-Gatewood said she is satisfied with the work performed by Tang.

The trustee, the judge noted, worked to finalize contracts for the services of an investment consultant and a software program capable of calculating members' benefits and auditing members' accounts.

Tang, she added, continued to work with CNMI government officials to resolve outstanding employer contributions issues, reviewed the status of pending administrative appeals, drafted rules and regulations to govern the procedure for administrative appeals, and drafted her first quarterly report.

Finally, Tydingco-Gatewood said the trustee continued to assist in the Merrill Lynch class action.

Meanwhile, at a status conference yesterday, Tydingco-Gatewood instructed attorney Mitchell F. Thompson, counsel for Johnson's original lawyer, Bruce Lee Jorgensen, and Johnson's other counsel, Timothy R. Lord, to work together regarding their petitions for attorney's fees and costs.

Tydingco-Gatewood placed under advisement the separate petitions filed by Jorgensen and Lord. The CNMI government agreed to settle Jorgensen's fees for $800,000, subject to court's approval.

The judge also instructed assistant attorney general Reena Patel to submit the CNMI government's proposed order regarding Stephen Woodruff's petition for attorney's fees and costs that the government settled for $185,000. Woodruff was Johnson's local counsel.

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# House JGO OKs registry for convicted burglars, thieves

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommends passage of a bill requiring all persons convicted of burglary, robbery, or theft to register with the Department of Public Safety, to notify the community about the location of registered offenders when necessary to ensure public safety. It will be similar to the sex offenders registry.

In a four-page report, the JGO Committee chaired by Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan) recommends that the House pass Rep. Roman Benavente's House Bill 18-120.

The JGO panel report on HB 18-120 or "The Burglary, Robbery and Theft Offenders Registration Act" may be adopted by the full House for action in this week's session.

The CNMI has seen many burglary, theft and robbery cases the past few years. In 2008, the cases totaled 1,956 and went up to 2,079 in 2009. The number of cases reached 1,687 in 2010; 1,817 in 2011; 1,560 in 2012; and 257 in the first quarter of 2013.

Benavente, in his bill, said there had been 14 murders committed in either the homes of community members or as a result of robberies since 1995.

He said a burglary, robbery, and theft criminal offender registration system can greatly enhance public safety "by tracking the criminal offenders after sentencing following their release from the Department of Corrections into Parole Supervision or non-incarcerated sentencing under non-supervision of agency's supervision."

"It will also benefit the investigation of crimes to identify perpetrators if a crime is committed that is similar in nature occurred within the area. [DPS] will have the advantage of identifying suspects through the system. Therefore, a person convicted of burglary, robbery, or theft will be required to register," Benavente said.

The JGO Committee said enactment of the bill will result in additional costs to the CNMI government as it places additional responsibilities on DPS with respect to implementation "but ensuring the safety of our citizens will outweigh such cost."

# Teen pregnancies in Pacific still cause for concern: UN

Although the number of pregnant young women across the region as a whole is falling, the UN Population Fund says there is still cause for concern.

It says Marshall Islands is recording 85 pregnancies for every 1,000 teenage girls in the community, while the teenage pregnancy rate in Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu is between 6 and 8 percent.

The UNPFA's Pacific director, Dr. Laurent Zessler, has told Radio Australia's Pacific Beat program some measures are being taken.

"There's a need and we work with the countries in the Pacific to have friendly services for young women, you know, where they can have access to information, where they can have access to contraceptives," he said.

Zessler says teenage girls need to be better educated about reproductive health to stem high rates of pregnancies.

"We need to make sure that at the school level, at the college level, young woman have what we call comprehensive sexuality education, that in the classroom, professors and teachers explain to them about biology, about reproductive health, so they're fully informed," he said.

He says there are also some unreported pregnancies resulting from rape.

"It could be possible that sometimes they are related to rape but sometimes we lack the data as to the exact nature of the violence," he said.

"This is why we are also working with the countries, and the countries are addressing gender-based violence against women, in particular [concerning] young girls.

"You need to have the proper police setup where the young woman can go to report the case. We need to have, you know...health professionals that can answer, that can be ready to accept the women, and also the judicial system to implant the law and enforce the law that exists in many countries."

Zessler says there are also culture factors involved in influencing the decisions of young women to continue or terminate their pregnancies.

"What we are advocating is safe abortion should be made available so, you know, let's say that a younger woman has been raped and is pregnant, she could have access to safe abortion," he said.

"This is a very controversial matter in some Pacific Island countries but countries have answered to this issue and they do answer to this issue, sometimes through the community response, through the village council and also the authorities are taking action in case such a thing happens." ***(ABC.net)***

# Court orders Quichocho and Atalig to pay investor $192K

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The federal court issued yesterday a judgment, holding lawyer Ramon K. Quichocho and his uncle, Joaquin Q. Atalig, liable to pay $192,328.04 to investor Sin Ho Nam who sued them for allegedly deceiving him to settle a previous lawsuit.

According to the judgment signed by U.S. District Court for the NMI Clerk and Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy, the court ordered Nam to recover the amount from Quichocho and Atalig, without pre- and post-judgment interests.

Kennedy said that U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona decided on Nam's motion for enforcement of the settlement agreement.

Nam previously sued Quichocho and Atalig for breaching a land lease agreement when they terminated a 55-year lease less than two years later, despite having already paid them $218,000.

The parties reached a settlement agreement.

In September 2011, attorneys Colin Thompson and Michael Dotts, counsel for Nam and Quichocho respectively, moved to dismiss all claims and counterclaims after they reached the settlement.

The following month, Manglona dismissed the lawsuit following the parties' settlement deal.

In August 2012, Nam filed a new lawsuit against Quichocho and Atalig for allegedly deceiving him in settling his previous lawsuit by promising to pay him $228,000 within 160 days.

Nam said the defendants have paid him only $16,800 against their contractual obligation and the express term of the settlement agreement.

The parties again reached a settlement agreement.

Last March 28, a federal court jury awarded businesswoman Jung Ja Kim $2.4 million in connection with her racketeering lawsuit and other claims against Ramon Quichocho, his law firm, his wife Frances, and the couple's Karissa LLC company.

## REFERENDUM

*From Page 1*

with the China-Australia Entrepreneurs Association Inc. and Zelong Group to invest $5 billion in a casino resort in Australia may have also been part of the reason why it dropped the Saipan plan, but Hocog said there was no mention of this project.

"They were a bit discouraged but the interest they showed I think let others know that Saipan has a good potential for a casino industry. I'm thankful there's two other investor groups willing to invest in the CNMI. I don't think anyone would put in $1 million [nonrefundable application fee] and not work hard to ensure that they get the exclusive license," Hocog said in an interview on Capital Hill.

Hocog was referring to casino applicants Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc. and Best Sunshine International Ltd., both with separate investment ties in Hong Kong and Macau, among other places.

Both applicants have only six days or up to May 5 to deposit $30 million each in an escrow to be further considered for a grant of an exclusive casino license.

That $30 million would be the source of funds to restore CNMI retirees' deferred 25 percent pension cut.

Lottery Commission chair Sixto Igisomar and other panel members will meet on Thursday, May 1, at 1:30pm in the governor's main conference room on Capital Hill to discuss these two casino applications.

While the first few portions of the commission meeting will be open to the public, the executive session would be strictly for the commissioners only.

Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said yesterday he's hoping that the Lottery Commission would allow for public comments prior to going into executive session.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos earlier said that the commission is considering hiring a Macau-based casino investigator and gaming consultant to help review the applications before them.

The governor said the decision on which investor group will be granted a Saipan casino license is entirely on the Lottery Commission.

The Lottery Commission consists of the attorney general, the Finance secretary, the Commerce secretary, and the Public Safety commissioner.

Because of non-disclosure clause, the commission or the government won't be able to disclose much of the applications' contents unless the information were independently sourced.

Marianas Stars Entertainment, an indirect subsidiary of Chinese Strategic Holdings Ltd., plans to build a 2,000-room hotel including dining and shopping facilities in addition to developing a casino. Only 25 percent of Marianas Stars is owned by Mega Stars Overseas Ltd., the new owner of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino. Owning 75 percent of Marianas Stars is Famous Treasure Ltd., a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Chinese Strategic Holdings Ltd.

Hong Kong-based Best Sunshine International Ltd., meanwhile, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of First Natural Foods Holdings Ltd. It has not been incorporated in the CNMI nor has it applied for a business license in the CNMI as of yesterday. It proposes to change its name to "Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd." to provide a better identification for the company as it further diversifies its business, including adding eco-tourism and gaming to its portfolio.

Whichever of the two investor groups is granted a license to exclusively operate a casino on Saipan is required to build a hotel-resort with at least 2,000 rooms and an initial investment of $2 billion.

## TYPHOON

*From Page 1*

being in their path.

How does this work? Over the past couple of months, sea surface temperatures and upper-ocean heat content have become increasingly anomalous in the eastern and central Pacific. The water has warmed, and some of the oceanic and atmospheric patterns in the tropical Pacific that we are accustomed to have been disrupted. This has led to some agreement among numerical models that we will see El Niño develop over the summer and fall of 2014.

What does this mean for the CNMI? First and foremost, conditions that are favorable for typhoon development will persist in the central and western-north Pacific. We have a warm bathtub that can fuel tropical cyclone development, and this development can occur to the east of where typhoons usually develop. This means that rather than forming near the Marianas and proceeding west toward the Philippines, tropical storms may form closer to the Marshall Islands and proceed west through the Marianas. Keep an eye out for this development from May through December.

In addition to typhoon activity, El Niño events are often the precursor to abnormally dry conditions in the year following the episode. Stay informed! You can follow the detailed evolution of El Niño conditions on NOAA's Climate Prediction Center website, or simply stop by the Division of Coastal Resources Management Office on Saipan and ask to talk to someone about climate and coastal hazards. ***(BECQ)***

## TAPAH

*From Page 1*

"The forecast has changed since this morning [Monday]. The track no longer takes it directly to Tinian/Saipan but still keeps it east of the islands," National Weather Service meteorologist-in-charge Genevieve Cruz-Miller told *Saipan Tribune*.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan announced yesterday afternoon that classes will be suspended today on Tinian and Saipan due to Tropical Storm Tapah.

In a statement, Sablan pointed out that the cancellation of classes only cover public schools on the two islands, which include K-12 program and Head Start.

"PSS management would like to inform all parents of students attending public schools on Saipan and Tinian that classes are cancelled [today], April 29, 2014, due to Tropical Storm Tapah. The storm has been upgraded to tropical storm II as of 4pm [Monday] afternoon," states the COE's statement.

Rota public schools will remain open today. Sablan said that updated information will be made as they become available at PSS.

As of 7pm yesterday, a tropical storm warning was in effect for Saipan and Tinian. A typhoon watch remained in effect for Alamagan and Pagan.

Tropical storm warning means tropical storm force winds of 39 miles per hour to 73 mph are possible within 24 hours. Typhoon watch means typhoon force winds of 74 mph or greater are possible within 48 hours.

As of 7pm, according to the National Weather Service in Guam, Tapah was packing maximum sustained winds of 60 mph and moving north-northeast at 7 mph. Its center was about 185 miles east of Guam, 160 miles east-southeast of Rota, 165 miles southeast of Tinian, and 165 miles southeast of Saipan.

Tropical Storm Tapah is expected to continue to intensify and reach typhoon intensity within the next 6 to 12 hours, according to the advisory issued by both NWS and CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

NWS said all persons in the watch areas should review their preparedness plan and be ready to implement it should a warning be issued for their area.

NWS said all persons should continue to prepare their homes or businesses according to their typhoon disaster plan and listen for any possible warnings if it should become necessary.

As for coastal waters under watch, small crafts are advised to return to port or seek safe harbor.

Hazardous surf of 10 to 13 feet will quickly build today in the morning as the tropical depression moves closer to the islands.

"Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with tropical depression 06W are expected to start late Monday night with total rainfall of 3 to 5 inches," NWS said.

Tapah is a Malaysian name for a giant freshwater catfish, according to Cruz-Miller. ***(With Moneth G. Deposa)***

## ON TOP OF PARTIAL PAYMENT FOR PAST ARREARS:

# CUC demands full payment of hospital's $400K monthly bill

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board of trustees expressed willingness yesterday to settle the Commonwealth Health Center's outstanding obligations with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., even if it means paying more than $400,000 each month.

CHCC board chair Joaquin Torres told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the board has already ordered management to come up with a payment plan based on the agency's realistic cash flow situation.

CUC board chair David J. Sablan, in an April 23 letter to Torres, indicated that CHCC owes the utilities agency $11.901 million, which represents the principal amount owed for electrical, water, and wastewater services totaling $10.675 million and accrued late charges of $1.226 million. Late charges continue to accrue on the accounts at the rate of 1 percent per month, Sablan said.

Torres

"Despite attempts to communicate with CHC and to determine a reasonable payment plan, CHC has not addressed these liabilities," stated Sablan in his letter to the CHCC board.

It was learned that the hospital's arrears comprise 52 percent of CUC's total receivables from government customers. Across all customer groups (residential, commercial, and government accounts) that owe CUC, the hospital's debt comprises about 43 percent.

As with the case of public schools, which also owe CUC a considerable amount, CUC said it is willing to delay its collection lawsuit against the hospital if a realistic and acceptable payment plan is presented.

"Such a plan would put us on track to improving our service to our customers and CHC. Failure to make such arrangements with us will leave CUC with no alternative but to consider further action including but not limited to, disconnection of services," according to Sablan.

In an interview yesterday, Torres disclosed that the corporation may tap portion of the $4.58 million loan recently approved by the Marianas Public Land Trust to pay off the hospital's arrears with CUC. It was learned that disbursement of this line of credit will be based on the need of the hospital, with the approval of the MPLT board.

Torres disclosed that the hospital's utility billing each month amounts to a little over $400,000, of which only half is being paid due to the agency's limited cash flow.

"Based on the demand letter from CUC, we have to keep current on our monthly bill. This means CHCC has to come up with over $400,000 every month for our utilities on top of whatever amount we can afford to pay for past arrears," said Torres.

Torres said a "final meeting" between CUC and CHCC—along with their lawyers—are expected in the first week of May.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that on April 23, the date the CUC letter was sent to the CHCC board, CUC executives, along with their lawyers, met with the healthcare trustees, appealing for the board's intervention in the unpaid utility arrears of the hospital.

# 45-day extension sought for PSS payment plan for CUC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero is seeking a 45-day extension to come up with a payment plan for the Public School System's utility arrears.

The 45-day extension is 30 days more than what the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has stipulated in its demand letter recently sent to the board.

CUC earlier sued PSS for its outstanding obligations totaling to $7.184 million, which include accrued late charges. In its April 23 letter to the education board, CUC demanded that the system come up with a realistic payment plan within 15 days or else its will be disconnected from the grid.

Guerrero

The education board immediately sent a response to the CUC board on April 25, indicating its willingness to resolve the issue.

"We are working diligently to put together a proposal for your review but would appreciate an extension of 45 days from the transmission of your letter to submit something meaningful. This is because this fiscal year's finances are still being worked out and because it will take some analysis for future years in order to come up with a proposal that we can commit to for the long term," stated Guerrero in his April 25 letter to CUC board chair David J. Sablan.

Guerrero also said that, like the CUC board, PSS leaders want to continue to work with CUC in resolving the debt. "We too are of that mindset and look forward to a resolution."

Guerrero pointed out that PSS strives to put students first and in doing so provide them with the best education possible. In fulfilling this mission, he said PSS is bound to finances that are not of its creation, but those that are allotted to them.

"However, we are committed to working out a resolution which benefits both parties," added the chairman.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that both PSS and CUC had been working on a possible settlement but the effort had stalled.

Guerrero disclosed yesterday that one of the reasons why settlement talks were disrupted was the potential budget that PSS may get next fiscal year. It will be recalled that PSS endorsed a $40-million budget for fiscal year 2015. However, Gov. Eloy S. Inos' submission to the Legislature amounted to only $33 million, which is almost similar to the current budget ceiling for PSS.

Guerrero revealed that the memorandum of understanding signed by both PSS and the central government acknowledging the millions of dollars owed by the government in unremitted maintenance-of-effort allotments to schools was never accepted by CUC.

"CUC didn't accept that [agreement]. They don't want us to use the MOU as a means of payment [to our arrears] because cash is not there," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

When asked where BOE and PSS will squeeze the money to pay the CUC arrears under its current and next year's budget, Guerrero admitted that he doesn't know yet.

"That's why we asked the [commissioner of education] to look how much we can afford to pay because unlike the CHCC and other agencies, we're not generating revenues here," said Guerrero.

When asked whether PSS agrees with the debt amounts presented by CUC, Guerrero said management is examining the numbers and looking at facts and issues, including the newly enacted law that mandates schools to pay reduced water and wastewater rates.

CUC's Sablan earlier said that CUC is willing to delay its collection lawsuit against PSS if a "realistic" payment plan will be presented by the school system. However, failure to make arrangements for payment of this amount within the next 15 days will leave CUC with no alternative but to consider further action, including disconnection of services.

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The more you text the better your chances!
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# 'Multiple deficiencies uncovered in 9 areas at CHC'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The independent auditor contracted by the Office of the Public Auditor uncovered multiple deficiencies in nine specific areas of operation at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

Speaking before members of the CHCC board on Wednesday last week, a representative of Deloitte & Touche revealed that in the fiscal year 2012 audit, its auditors uncovered issues in the areas of general ledger system, payroll, purchases and disbursements, procurement, revenues and receipts, liabilities, withholding taxes, Medicare payments, and inventory.

In the draft audit report made available to *Saipan Tribune* that was discussed during the meeting, it was learned that CHCC does not maintain a separate general ledger system, resulting in the lack of reliable financial information and the inability to timely detect errors and inaccuracies.

It was found out that as of Sept. 30, 2012, fixed asset transfers to CHCC were not recorded by CHCC or the Department of Finance and transfers of receivables, inventory, and obligations had not been documented by both CHCC and Finance.

"CHCC was appropriated $5 million from the general fund for fiscal year 2012 but was only able to account for $3,756,311 of this funding. Journal vouchers posted to the DOF general ledger are not approved by CHCC management and CHCC could not provide complete journal vouchers. Inventory and billing systems are not linked to the DOF general ledger," states a portion of the draft audit, adding that CHCC does not monitor receivables for collectability.

Of 75 payroll expense items tested totaling $98,219, of a population of $15,869,511, tests of NOPAs for 29 employees noted inconsistencies in business unit charged. Timecards for all 75 employees were not signed by the employee. NOPAs for 41 employees were not also signed at a reasonable time from the effective date. Tests of employee leave forms also had deficiencies. For all 75 employees tested, large variances existed between the payroll report and the general ledger posting report. The reason for the large variances could not be explained by the management. Further, complete payroll registers covering the entire fiscal year were not available.

There are also direct deposit of payroll through the use of the automated clearing house for 26 employees that could not be traced to the bank statement.

For purchases/disbursements, of the 53 non-payroll items tested totaling $10,602,922 of a total population of $17,233,366, three items relate to purchases incurred in a prior fiscal year and one item relates to a travel advance; 23 items including contracts, purchase orders, invoices and journal entries were not also provided. The cause of the above condition is the lack of monitoring and approval of cash disbursements and the lack of proper and systematic filing of relevant documents. These result in a misstatement of expenses.

For procurement, of 53 non-payroll items tested totaling $10,602,922 of a total population of $17,233,366, one item was purchased through sole source procurement but efforts to obtain quotes from qualified sources were not evident; for three items, the contract had expired yet the contractor continued to provide services without a new approved contract or change order.

Competitive bidding did not occur after a contract had expired for one item and justification to not bid out services was not evident. Three professional services contracts tested had no approved contracts, and one indicated that proper procurement regulations were not performed as there was no record on file of any agreement. These resulted in noncompliance with procurement rules.

For revenue/receipts, of 44 cash receipts tested aggregating $15,060,477 of a total population of $20,342,349, deposits related to five journal entries could not be traced to the bank statement. For three journal entries, the supporting receipts were not provided for examination, only memorandums requesting payment were provided. One deposit did not have any supporting documentation. This condition resulted in unsupported revenue transactions, the potential for cash misappropriation, unreported collections and unrecorded revenues.

For liabilities, the auditor noted $29,498 in liabilities that pertain to the prior year but were recorded as a liability in the current year. Supporting invoices and/or documents were not also provided for some 12 vouchers. There were also four vouchers that do not have proper approval prior to actual payment.

Still on liabilities, the audit noted accrued taxes of $254,372 that were unsupported. A negative retirement liability of $21,233 could not also be explained. Also uncovered were the lack of supporting documents for accrued vacation and sick leave. All these conditions result in the misstatement of liabilities and expenses.

For withholding taxes, CHCC did not report or remit Chapter 2 and Chapter 7 withholding taxes payments withheld from employee salaries and the related employer share. As of Sept. 30, 2012, the total withholdings for Chapter 2 and Chapter 7 amounted to $1,136,778 and $239,579, respectively. Although payments were subsequently remitted, related interest and penalties have not been determined.

For Medicare payments, CHCC did not report or remit Medicare payments withheld from employee salaries and the related employer share as of Sept. 30, 2012, which totaled $313,333. The auditor recommended that this issue be addressed with the Internal Revenue Service as soon as possible and require all payroll allotments to be made in a timely manner.

For inventory, CHCC does not reconcile inventory to a general ledger control total and does not have a perpetual inventory system in place, which cause weaknesses in CCHC's financial management system. In effect, this condition results in a lack of control over inventories and increases potential for fraud.

During Wednesday's deliberation, it was disclosed that "responses" for the audit findings have been mostly accepted and agreed upon by the corporation management, which vowed to rectify each and every deficiency uncovered.

## OPA compilation

Meantime, board trustees were informed that what they discussed during last week's meeting was not a copy of the Deloitte & Touche's draft audit report but a compilation of reports done by the OPA.

Though both reports—OPA compilation and Deloitte's draft audit—indicated multiple deficiencies in the corporation's finances, board members were disappointed that they were made to believe that what had been provided and discussed for about eight hours last week was the auditor's actual audit report in draft form.

"I read this thing [OPA compilation] last meeting and I didn't hear anybody [from management] disputing this report as an audit report. So what's going on today?" asked trustee Roy Rios, who expressed his dismay anew on the inability of the management to identify the difference between the two documents.

# Prims take part in 3-day cleanup of Bird Island

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The first group of Prims consisting of 10 employees managed to pick up a large net with ropes and bags full of garbage near the shores of Bird Island.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The second team of Prims consisting of nine members gathered more trash from the jungle near the shoreline.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

After a hot day of picking up trash in the jungles of Bird Island, the last team of Prims relaxes for a group photo after their hard work.

Saipan World Resort's lifeguards, called Prims, kicked off their three-day team-building event by cleaning up the Bird Island.

The team-building cleanup started last Wednesday, April 23, and ended Friday, April 25. It sent out different teams each day so that all the Prims got involved in the activity.

The Prims have always conducted quarterly team-building events for the lifeguards to be involved in the community.

World Resort water park manager Ed Johnson said the cleanup is in line with April being Environmental Awareness Month.

"As part of the Environmental Awareness Month we decided to do the cleanup for our team building," Johnson said.

According to World Resort water park supervisor Ann Hix they collected old nets, ropes, glass bottles, Styrofoam plates, and many other trash that were on the beaches and jungles near Bird Island.

"Trash were collected from everywhere in the area. From the jungle to the shores, it is dangerous and also a bad sight for tourists. The island's a bird sanctuary so we should keep it clean," she said.

World Resort water park supervisor Vener Urena said that each team had trash bags per person.

"On the first day we had a total of 10 people for the first team, the second team had nine, and the third team on the last day was 11," Urena said.

According to Hix, more than 800 lbs of trash was collected.

Urena noted that each team of Prims gathered three to four bags of trash each day.

Hix noted that the cleanup was a team effort and that they succeeded in both their duties as Prims for World Resort's Wave Jungle and as helpers of the environment.

Urena noted that all the hard work the Prims put into their team-building activity will be rewarded as they will be holding a party soon. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

# Man implicated in Hocog's case wants trial on Tinian

A Tinian resident who was charged in connection with the arrest of former police officer Victor Val B. Hocog for alleged trafficking of methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan has asked the Superior Court to hold the trial on Tinian.

Jeffrey Hoashi Borja, 42, in a declaration filed on Friday, claimed that due to his health condition including hemophilia, it is hard for him to travel from Tinian to Saipan to attend the trial and back to Tinian again.

Borja said he is currently unemployed, has no place on Saipan, and cannot afford to pay for a hotel and travel expenses.

He asked the court to hold the trial on Tinian on Sept. 12, 2014, at 9am.

Attorney Matthew T. Gregory, counsel for Borja, said the government's factual summary contains many outright falsehoods that are unnecessary for the determination of the trial's venue.

Citing a brief summary of the facts alleged by the prosecution, Gregory disclosed that on Jan. 23, 2014, the court issued a search warrant against Hocog, a then-police officer who was the target of an investigation. Gregory said Borja was not a target of the search warrant or the subject of an investigation.

Pursuant to the search warrant, Gregory said, the police conducted a "buy-walk operation" on Jan. 25 and 26, 2014, involving Hocog.

The lawyer said Borja was not implicated in either of these two "buy-walk operations" as the transactions involved only Hocog and a confidential source.

Gregory said that after Hocog's arrest on Jan. 26, Borja, a passenger in Hocog's vehicle, was released and not arrested.

Only after Hocog's lengthy discussion with then co-employees at the Department of Public Safety on Jan. 27, 2014, did Borja become the subject of an investigation, Gregory said.

"Suspiciously, police officer Hocog managed to convince his co-employees that he was not guilty and that Borja was to be charged for alleged drugs allegedly found in Hocog's car," the lawyer pointed out.

While many of the witnesses and events took place on Saipan, Gregory said that Borja is from Tinian and therefore a potential witness does in fact live on Tinian. Additional witnesses from Tinian may be necessary for this case, he added.

Borja has been granted temporary release from the Department of Corrections.

In October 2007, the federal court slapped Borja with a five-month prison term for distribution of "ice" near a school on Tinian.

Last February, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman found probable cause to warrant the filing of charges against Hocog. Wiseman ordered the 39-year-old Hocog to answer the charges of two counts of trafficking of a controlled substance and two counts of illegal possession of controlled substance. Hocog pleaded not guilty.

Drug Enforcement Task Force detective Jeffrey Norita stated in his report that members of the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force and Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force conducted two monitored controlled buy-walk operations, during which Hocog handed a total of $100 worth of "ice" to the Task Force's cooperating source at a poker arcade in As Lito. Hocog was then temporarily released upon posting a $10,000 cash bail plus other many conditions.

CNMI court marshals arrested Hocog again on April 4 after he tested positive for "ice" use. Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja reinstated s previous order imposing a $100,000 cash bail plus other conditions for Hocog's temporary release.

Hocog is son of Sen. Victor Hocog (R-Rota). ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

# Mariana Resort eyes expansion

Mariana Resort & Spa, one of the longest standing Japanese-owned hotel resort in the CNMI, is planning to expand its facilities to help with the growing demand.

In his remarks at the resort's 36th anniversary celebration on April 26, Kan Pacific Saipan president Yoshihiro Kitami said that Mariana Resort is looking to build a new game room, add more than 100 rooms, and set up new banquet facilities.

"We continue to improve and expand our property. Our next milestone will be opening our new game room. We are looking forward that with a new lease we will be building about 100-plus rooms and banquet facilities to help with the growing demand of our tourism economy," Kitami said.

Mariana Resort general manager Gloria Cavanagh said they still need to put the architectural work together but they've already identified the location and a survey has already started.

"It's time for us to expand and re-look at our master plan and get moving. Of course, one of the reasons is the lease. When you say we're 36 years in operation that means we only have four years left on the 40-year lease. We're in the middle of negotiations and hopefully we'll get a new lease. We're discussing with [Department of Public Lands] right now and we're starting on our architectural design on expansion," Cavanagh said.

Cavanagh noted that due to limited areas for banquets, Mariana Resort had to let go of some of their possible customers.

"The weekends in the restaurants, it's a favorite for locals, but we usually have to turn them away and it's usually up to four times a month we had turned down banquets," Cavanagh said.

When asked where the expansions will happen on the property, Cavanagh said this would be disclosed at a later date.

"We already know where we want to put it. We just don't want to 'jump the gun' of the plan and that the idea and concept are still in planning," she said.

Kitami also mentioned the hotel's entry into the electronic gaming scene in his remarks, which Cavanagh echoed.

"We're looking at holding another grand opening for our e-gaming facility," Cavanagh said. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

# 1-hour free fitness classes at JKPL

Joeten Kiyu Public Library will be hosting one-hour free fitness classes every afternoon in the library's Children of Homeland Center.

The classes will be offered from Tuesday to Friday, from 4:45pm to 5:45pm and is open to the public.

Classes will be offered through exercise DVDs or videos.

Those interested can sign up at the circulation desk located in the main lobby of JKPL.

Participants are advised to dress in proper workout attire and that space is limited to the first 30 participants.

JKPL technical services librarian Rosalyn Ajoste said the classes are a way to market the health resources that are available to the community.

"At this point, JKPL staff are not professionally certified physical trainers. Participants will be asked to sign a liability waiver," Ajoste said.

Ajoste said it is also a "good idea to consult a physician prior to beginning any exercise program."

"It is important for everyone to go at their own pace and not push too hard," she added.

According to Ajoste, depending on the number of participants in the pilot program, JKPL hopes to be able to offer classes by certified instructors in Zumba, Pilates, high/low impact aerobics, yoga, core strengthening, and more.

JKPL is a member of the "Let's Move Marianas" coalition."

JKPL executive director John Gonzales said that they are planning on partnering with "Let's Move Marianas" on the fitness classes but it is not settled yet.

Ajoste said that they would eventually like to partner with other government organizations that are committed to improving the health of all CNMI residents.

"The library should be a place where people come to learn and live healthier in their mind, body, and soul," Ajoste said.

As part of its improvement on services to the community, JKPL will be experimenting with new programming ideas and looking for ways to increase patron traffic among teens and young adults, all the way up to the senior citizens.

Ajoste said that the target audience of the fitness classes is anyone looking to improve personal health and fitness, for those who cannot afford or may not have access to a gym, for those who can avail of the library's centralized location, and who is looking for a group of supportive individuals to work out with.

For more information, call the public library at 235-7315 or 235-7316. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

# HSC-25 conducts medevac at sea

**ASAN, Guam (April 28, 2014)** – Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 assisted in the medical evacuation of a patient from a civilian vessel located 88 nautical miles southeast of Guam who required medical care on April 28.

A Navy MH-60S helicopter was launched from Andersen Air Force Base at approximately 10:22am. Navy personnel transported the patient to U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, from where he was subsequently transported to Guam Memorial Hospital.

HSC-25 is the Navy's only forward-deployed MH-60S expeditionary squadron. As a part of Helicopter Sea Combat Wing Pacific, it provides an armed helicopter capability for U.S. 7th Fleet in support of logistics, search and rescue and humanitarian assistance missions.

HSC-25 is also the only squadron that maintains a 24-hour search and rescue and medical evacuation alert posture, directly supporting the U.S. Coast Guard and Joint Region Marianas. ***(PR)***

**BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT**

Happy, happy birthday to our *bunso*, Carly Kate P. Dela Cruz, who turns 5 years old today, April 29, 2014! Greetings come from Papa, Mama, *Ate* KC, and *Ate* Kristin.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**Board of Parole**

P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel: NOS.: (670) 664-3300 – 3304 FAX: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

## PUBLIC NOTICE
### Preliminary Hearing

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the CNMI Board of Parole, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992", Notice hereby given that a **Preliminary Hearing** is scheduled for **April 30, 2014, (Wednesday) at 10:00 a.m., at the CNMI Board of Parole Office, Capitol Hill Road, Building Number 1216**, Saipan. The following individual(s) will appear before the Hearing Examiner:

**A. Parolee**

**1. EVANGELISTA, Ramon R. Cr. Cs. No.: 82-00003 BOP.: 12-005**

If you have any question or information, please call the Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Rose Ada-Hocog
Hearing Examiner

Date: 4/25/14

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**Statewide Independent Living Council**

**"Yes I Can!"**

P.O. BOX 501521, SAIPAN, MP 95950: TEL: (670) 322-6537/8 FAX: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449; E-MAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its FY 2014 Second General Membership Meeting on Thursday, May 1, 2014 at the Latte Stone, Kanoa Resort at 12:00 – 3:00 pm.
Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

### AGENDA

**I. Call to Order**
**II. Roll Call**
**III. Review and Adoption of Agenda**
**IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (February 6, 2014)**
**V. Reports**
- a. SILC Chairperson
- b. CLI Executive Director
- c. OVR Director

**VI. Old Business**
- a. Guest Speaker: Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA)

**VII. New Business**
- a. Review and Adoption of Revised SILC By-Laws
- b. FY 2015 State Plan for Independent Living
- c. Community Outreach
- d. National Council on Independent Living Council (NCIL) Conference

**VIII. Consumer Forum**
**IX. Announcements/Miscellaneous**
**X. Adjournment**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters are asked to call Ms. Elvira Seman (OVR Administrative Assistant) at 322-6537(voice) or 322-6449(TTY) for necessary arrangements.

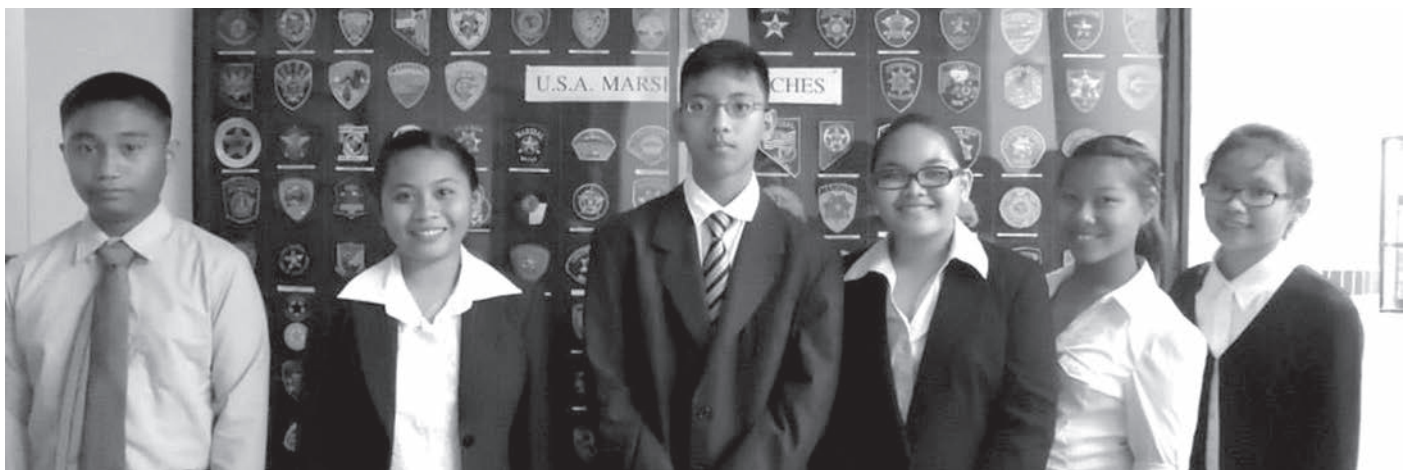
/s/ **Consolacion Atalig**
*SILC Chairperson*

***Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by a grant from U.S. Department of Education the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).***

# ESFDB students excel in Junior High Mock Trial

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ESFDB Team 1, from left: Junice Masga, Angelo Lucero, Angelica Lucero, Tyra Reese Calvo, and Jeremy John Atalig II.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ESFDB Team 2, from left: Joshua Puerto, Angelica Lucero, Metka Mendiola, Tyra Reese Calvo, Marnecia Hocog, and Loreville Clitar.

The Northern Mariana Humanities Council, in collaboration with the Guma' Hustisia, hosted the 10th annual Junior High Mock Trial on April 12, 2014.

For most participating junior high school students, the justice system, courts, trials, judges, and juries are a complete mystery that they might see on the TV program *Law and Order*, but almost certainly aren't something that they ordinarily deal with.

Students from various junior high schools put their legal hats on to participate in the event that is not competitive. However, individual students were recognized for their outstanding performances after each round.

Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja Junior High Mock Trial team had been preparing for the event since January this year.

The Junior High Mock Trial event was ESFDB's culmination of a 12-week class conducted by Army Judge Advocate General Corps lawyer coach Capt. Edward Maratita Jr. and assisted by teacher coach Mary Rose Lucero.

This year, ESFDB set up two teams representing the defense side.

The first team of defense lawyers was composed of Jeremy John Atalig II, Tyra Reese Calvo, and Angelica Lucero, along with their defense witnesses Marjorie Banaag, Angelo Lucero, and Junice Masga.

The second team of defense lawyers was composed of Tyra Reese Calvo, Angelica Lucero, and Metka Mendiola, together with their defense witnesses Loreville Clitar, Marnecia Hocog, and Joshua James Puerto.

ESFDB' first team competed against Tinian Junior High School, while the second team was pitted against its sister school and mock trial powerhouse Mount Carmel School.

After each round, CNMI Superior Court Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio recognized individual students for their performances. Recognized for superior achievement as defense attorneys were Jeremy John Atalig II, Tyra Reese Calvo, Angelica Lucero, and Metka Mendiola.

Marjorie Banaag, Loreville Clitar, Angelo Lucero, and Junice Masga were recognized for superior achievement in their roles as defense witnesses.

"These students have achieved something very impressive with their performance during the Junior High Mock Trial event," said ESFDB administrator/principal Carmen H. Atalig. "Not only did they earned a good grade but were recognized for their outstanding performances."

"They've represented our school and Luta community very well. I am proud of the achievements of these God-given talented students," added Atalig.

"The goal of the class was simple. We wanted them to understand about the justice system and play their role," said teacher coach Lucero. "The students had fun putting on a show, which is a great sign."

"Going up against our sister school Mount Carmel was a challenge. Anytime, you go up against them, it's like going up against real lawyers," said Tyra Reese Calvo.

Angelica Lucero shared the same sentiments. "They are the best team and we enjoyed competing against the best. They pushed us to be at our best and I thank them for it."

"During the 12-week class, there was a lot of reading, they had a long packet of information to read before the junior high mock trial, and I am very proud of them because they were focused and disciplined," said Army JAG lawyer coach Maratita. "The students had a sense of how the judicial system works. Next year we're hoping to get more student participation in the junior high mock trial classes to build around for the future."

Prior to the event, Supreme Court Associate Justice John A. Manglona gave his welcoming remarks to the participating junior high school students, teachers, and guest.

The administration, faculty, and students would like to express their appreciation to the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, Superior Court judges and Supreme Court justices, Rota Court House staff, Daisy Mendiola, Patrick Diaz, Arlo Lucero, Dr. James and Mrs. Jocelyn Toskas and kids, Pacific Regional Training Institute Legal Counsel Division (Guam), and to the parents for their encouragement and support. ***(ESFDB)***

# OVR extends online survey deadline to May 1

If you are a person with a disability or a family member and/or caregiver of a person with a disability, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and State Rehabilitation Council encourage you to complete an online survey designed to gather information and learn more about the current needs of people with disabilities on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. The survey can be accessed at https://sdsueducation.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_893GXoLmnPpOChf.

If you are a community partner from educational agencies, government agencies, community rehabilitation programs (also known as OVR vendors), advocates (including members of disability-related boards and councils), attorneys, employers/businesses, workforce training providers, etc., there is a different survey instrument put together just for you that may be accessed at https://sdsueducation.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_00xXrWhVG6GVc7H.

The Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment is conducted every three years by OVR in partnership with the SRC through technical assistance provided by San Diego State University Interwork Institute. The CSNA surveys are voluntary and anonymous and the deadline for its completion has been extended to May 1. Survey results or data will be helpful in directing and guiding program planning for the overall improvement of service delivery in the CNMI.

For any questions about the survey or to request the survey in an alternative or accessible format, contact Dr. Mark Tucker of SDSU-II at mtucker@interwork.sdsu.edu.

For more information contact OVR at Ph: (670) 322-6537/38; TTY: (670) 322-6449; Fax: (670) 322-6536/48; Email: nmidir@ovrgov.net; or P.O. Box 501521, Saipan, MP 96950. ***(OVR)***

## Flashback

### A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

**April 29, 2006**

**Hundreds flock to arts fest's 1st night**

All roads led to the American Memorial Park Friday, as more than a thousand people attended the first night of the 25th Flame Tree Arts Festival. Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Daisy Villagomez-Bier was surprised that the first night of the festival drew a fair share of people, with the line of cars stretching as far as the Haf Adai Hotel and DFS Saipan intersection.

**DPS help sought to curb tourism-related offenses**

Alarmed by negative reports about tourists' safety in the Northern Marianas, Marianas Visitors Authority officials have requested the police department for assistance leading to greater protection of visitors. These came in view of unpleasant tourism feedback, including the "overly aggressive solicitation" by female entertainers in Garapan, throwing of stones at passing cars in Tanapag/San Roque area, stealing of tourists' items, and others. Two separate incidents also took place recently on Tinian: a Japanese couple being hit with a metal object and robbed by a man while at Blow Hole as well as the vandalism of the Okinawan monument. The Okinawan tower was built by the Micronesia Repatriation Association in honor of the war dead from Okinawa.

**April 29, 2007**

**NMI to miss FY07 arrivals goal**

Unless a miracle happens, the government won't be able to meet its visitor arrival goals this fiscal year. No less than Gov. Benigno R. Fitial admitted this in his annual address Friday, citing that airline seats from the CNMI's top market—Japan—have declined sharply this year. From 519,000 airline seats from Japan in 2004, Fitial said the number fell to 311,000 in 2006 and is projected to further go down to 204,000 this year, reflecting a likely 60-percent drop over that of 2004. "Our visitor industry has suffered from a decline in airline seats from Japan, historically the primary source of our tourists. In 2004 the number of airline seats from Japan to the CNMI was 519,000. It fell to 441,000 in 2005. After the pullout of Japan Airlines in October 2005, it fell to 311,000 in 2006 and promises to fall further to 204,000 in 2007. The resultant decline in lost revenues from Japanese visitors has had a devastating impact on the Commonwealth's tourism industry and tax revenues," said Fitial.

**DPH cautions public against measles**

The Department of Public Health is warning the CNMI public to watch their and their children's health in the wake of a measles outbreak in Japan. Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin P. Villagomez is advising parents to review their child's immunization records or have their health-care provider review it to make sure that their children have been properly vaccinated with the Measles, Mumps, Rubella vaccine. Villagomez said the CNMI Immunization Schedule recommends MMR vaccinations for children who are 12 months old and older.

**April 29, 2008**

**Suspicious bag prompts partial CHC evacuation**

A black leather briefcase that sat on a bench in front of the Commonwealth Health Center's Gift Shop caused the evacuation of a portion of the Commonwealth Health Center building yesterday afternoon. It was later found that the bag contained hearing test equipment, accidentally left behind by a CHC audiologist. According to Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez, the briefcase had been sitting unattended for quite some time, prompting DPH deputy secretary for hospital administration Joe Santos to call the police to secure the area until it was determined what the bag contained.

**'Rice prices will continue to increase'**

The leading importer of rice in the CNMI said the price of the staple would continue to increase until the end of the year because of international market forces. In an interview with Micronesian Brokers Inc. general manager Francisco Barja, he said the global rice shortage is forcing rice prices to soar to record highs. "The international rice market is facing a difficult situation, with demand outstripping supply and this has led to substantial price increases." He said rice-exporting countries are hoarding their crops amidst droughts in China and Australia and production declines in the United States and Japan.

# Mandatory drug testing for law enforcers is now law

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

## »Governor cites 'special need, compelling interest' to do so

Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed into law a nine-month-old bill requiring annual mandatory drug tests for law enforcement officers, recognizing "several incidents of illegal drug abuse involving law enforcement as well as the fact that many of these employees carry firearms and hold safety-sensitive functions."

In signing House Bill 18-101 into Public Law 18-47 on Thursday, the governor said the measure supports the conclusion that the Commonwealth government has a "special need" or "compelling interest" to authorize annual mandatory drug test for law enforcement officers.

For years, the CNMI has seen several incidents wherein police officers, firefighters, corrections officers, customs officers and other law enforcement or employees of regulatory agencies have been convicted or charged with committing illegal drug use or trafficking-related offenses.

Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan), main author of the bill, said Sunday the new law would help deter and detect drug abuse among law enforcement personnel, and keep the public's perception of law enforcement agencies as drug-free zones.

While he approved the bill, the governor told the Legislature to be cognizant that the measure amends a certain provision of the Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations, particularly NMIAC 10-20.2-424(d), which applies only to CNMI civil service employees.

"Therefore, the mandatory drug testing provisions required pursuant to this bill will only apply to law enforcement officers in the civil service, including DPS police officers, DPS firefighters and DOC corrections officers, among others," the governor said in his April 24 transmittal letter to legislative leaders.

Leon Guerrero said the governor's concerns are addressed in a separate legislation he introduced.

The governor's signing of PL 18-47 came a few days after he vetoed another of Leon Guerrero's bill, HB 18-152, requiring elected public officials to submit to drug testing for controlled substances. Inos said that bill may violate constitutional rights and is "vague and problematic."

"Unlike House Bill No. 18-152, which I vetoed, this bill supports the conclusion that the Commonwealth government has a 'special need' or compelling interest to authorize annual mandatory drug tests for law enforcement officers…" the governor said in signing HB 18-101.

Leon Guerrero said Sunday he will still seek support from his fellow lawmakers to override the governor's veto of HB 18-152.

The lawmaker also said he's thankful for the governor's statements to the media in January that his administration will reprogram funds to ensure law enforcement personnel will undergo mandatory annual drug testing.

"I thank the governor for saying that funding is not a problem," Leon Guerrero added.

Office of Personnel Management director Isidro Seman earlier said OPM needs "at least $14,000 to $15,000 a year" to administer random drug testing, but this is inclusive of everyone, not only law enforcement personnel.

Shortly after that, the governor said he believes the amount estimated by OPM is a "drop in the bucket," and not funding the program is not worth the risk, especially among law enforcement agencies.

Each drug test costs $30 to $40.

Under the new law, subject to funding, "100 percent of law enforcement officers" each year is required to submit to urine testing for drugs. These include urine tests for cocaine, marijuana, opiates, amphetamines, and phencyclidine.

The testing will be done during on-duty time and the government shall pay for the testing unless otherwise provided.

Leon Guerrero also commended the Commonwealth Ports Authority for taking the initiative to conduct a random drug testing across-the-board, and hopes that other independent agencies will do the same.

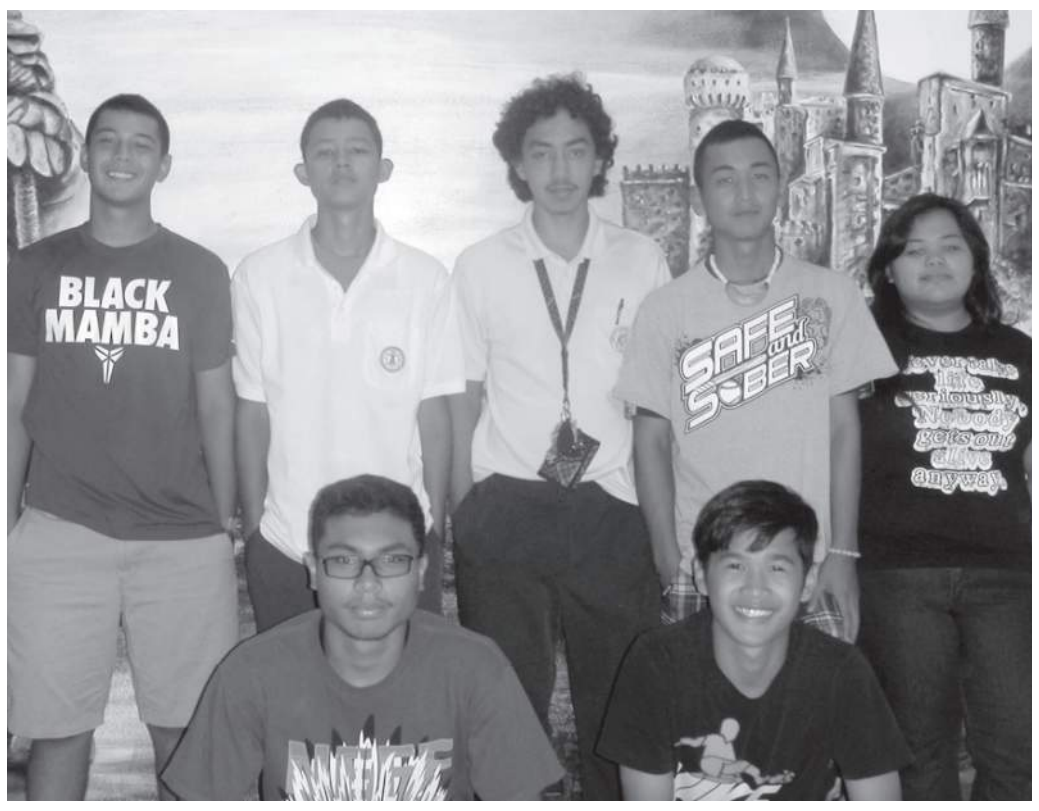
The OPM director earlier confirmed that not one agency had been subjected to random drug testing last year over lack of funds. This statement was made days after DPS Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero and Customs Services Division director Joe Mafnas told senators that none of their personnel underwent random drug testing in at least a year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**DESIGN CHALLENGE**
The winning team of the MHS Aeronautical Dolphins has their picture taken after being named winner of the 2014 Real World Design Challenge. The seven-member team was hailed champion in both the state and Pacific competitions, earning the privilege to fly to Washington, D.C. and compete with teams from the rest of the nation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Mount Carmel School's KON-52 wins second place in the state level 2014 Real World Design Challenge. The team won third place in the Pacific RWDC. Second place went to Guam Islanders from John F. Kennedy High School.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Members of the MHS Aeronautical Dolphins gather for a group photo with their teacher-coach, John Raulerson, left, MHS principal Cherlyn Cabrera, and one of the competition's judges. The Aeronautical Dolphin's "The HawkEye 670" was adjudged the Pacific State Real World Design Challenge champion and will advance to Washington, D.C. for the national competition this year.




CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Mount Carmel School's Aviator Knights wins third place in the state level 2014 Real World Design Challenge.

# Opinion

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## John XXIII, John Paul II—one in heart and mind

**By CHARLES J. CHAPUT**
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

John XXIII and John Paul II, both extraordinary popes, changed the papacy, the church, and the world. But that's not the most important thing about them.

An ocean of words has been written on the two men in advance of their being declared saints Sunday. A common narrative treats them as leaders with very different visions for the church. John XXIII was the brave progressive freeing the church from outdated ideas and rules; John Paul II was the Polish conservative trying to reimpose an older vision of Catholic life.

It's a congenial story line, but only for people who find facts burdensome. The reality of the two men was more complex.

Born of an Italian peasant family and a veteran of the Vatican's diplomatic service, John XXIII was 77 when elected—firmly anticommunist and a traditional churchman in many ways. Within a few months, though, he surprised the world by calling the Second Vatican Council.

The need for a council was not a new idea. It had been discussed internally by leading bishops and theologians for some time. But John XXIII had the courage to pursue it. He hoped a new ecumenical council would reinvigorate the methods, forms and structures of the church to address the needs of the modern world.

In effect, John wanted to make the church better at what she was called to do, not to reinvent who she is. When he opened the first session of the council, he told the world's bishops that his overriding concern was that "the sacred deposit of Christian doctrine should be guarded and taught more efficaciously."

As John made clear in his great encyclical "Mater et Magistra ("Mother and Teacher"), the church pursues her mission of mercy and salvation for the sake of the world. The church must "hold the world in an embrace of love, that men, in every age, should find in her their own completeness in a higher order of living, and their ultimate salvation."

John Paul II was elected in 1978, 15 years after John XXIII's death. He was the youngest pope since Pius IX in 1846 and the first non-Italian in 450 years; a former quarry worker, actor and scholar; a man who had survived the devastation of his homeland and two bloody totalitarian regimes in a row.

John Paul was also a bishop who'd been active at the Second Vatican Council, where he had helped draft some of its key documents. One of these, the "Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World," "Gaudium et Spes," was the text that most vigorously threw open the windows of the church. In his first address after being elected pope, he declared that he believed it his "primary duty" to promote "the most exact fulfillment of the norms and directives of the council."

And that is what John Paul did for the 26 years of his astonishing papacy, traveling to every corner of the globe and producing a vast body of teaching—on the family, on mercy, on workers' rights, on faith and reason, on art and culture, on the dignity of women, the elderly and the unborn child, and on too many other issues to name—that dwarfs the work of any previous pope.

But the church doesn't acknowledge these two great popes as saints because they were innovative CEOs, or because they were somehow free from human flaws or weakness. She declares them saints because in her judgment, these men were genuinely holy. People become saints, not because they're perfect and not because they do things well, but because they follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ in a heroic way.

Those who focus on the politics of the church in the last 50 years and dwell on the perceived differences between John XXIII and John Paul II are missing a much larger point. The two great popes

*See JOHN on Next Page*

## Obama's manhood

**By JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.*

When I lived in mainland United States, around all sides of Chicago (Westside, Southside and Uptown), North Carolina, Texas, and Kentucky, and transient in many cities including south L.A. and towns in the Jersey side of Manhattan, the surest way to get to a black man's goat is to suggest that he has manhood problems.

Sociologically, manhood problems in the U.S. South have been aired against many male Americans of African descent because of the high incidence of black females living alone and dependent on public social nets, abandoned by the black fathers of their children, we are told.

That charge against lack of "manhood" was recently used by a *NY Times* columnist to characterize Obama's foreign policy "indecisiveness" in the Middle East. We will dismiss the columnist's deliberate choice of a previously racist symbol since we knew him to be a rabid cheerleader for the Iraq war and had been called by a colleague in the trade as a "bully." Nor will we consider the comment as the opposite of being manly in the sissified manner of the Brit gentleman out of Eton; not even the "unmanly" way Georgie Bush was accused when he used childhood language to rationalize the Iraq invasion, as against Saddam "trying to kill my Daddy."

"Indecisiveness" is the current word to malign leaders who do not draw their six-shooters from the hip and ask questions later. In fact, the alleged Putin problem in Russia is a kneejerk response by many among the feds to anything Russian. Putin after 9/11 was a good friend of the U.S., even visiting Georgie in his Texas farm, but a week later was hanging on the foreign policy limb when the U.S. unilaterally invaded Iraq, thanks to Cheney, Rumsfeld, and the Armageddon crowd, who do not have "manhood" issues. (BTW, Condoleezza Rice could not erase the "masculine" charge against her even with pleasantly raised heels and creaseless skirts.)

In a recent live interview where Putin fielded questions from the audience and from other off-locations including Crimea, he was asked if he expects Obama to save him should he find himself drowning and needing assistance. Putin said: "Obama is a good and decent man. Yes." The men have many disagreements, and though they do not look like they warmly talk to each other in public, there does not seem to be any fundamental trust issues. Racism is not unknown in the Kremlin, the Patrice Lumumba U notwithstanding. The neocon imperialistic perspective dominates Obama's advisers, though the President as a congressman was one of three U.S. Congress persons who opposed the Iraq invasion. Neither can erase their liability with a magic wand.

The decisiveness call is ladled on the MH370 missing flight as someone intentionally veered the flight elsewhere from its designated path, costing the world numerous search materials and efforts, now more than a month later, still not having any shred of tangible result.

On the other hand, indecisiveness is labeled on the crew of the Jeju ferry and the Jindo rescue station office when the interisland ferry sunk off the southern tip of the Korean peninsula. The crew could have initiated evacuation procedures earlier, and the ship's captain leaving the steering of the wheel to an inexperienced young third mate is now considered in Seoul as "murderous." Within an hour, the ferry became an upside-down tub! Jindo's rescue response was confused as well.

A commentator pointed out that there were many ships in the neighborhood when the tipping incident occurred, and two of them could have easily sailed beside the ferry, threw chains underneath what was yet a sinking boat, and secured the same to their side to keep the ferry from sinking. A quick inventory of the ships in the channel at the time showed a number owned by, or, on lease to, oil companies with cargoes of the precious fluid they evidently did not wish to endanger. In the armchair quarterbacking after the incident that we all participate in, one wonders how different the casualty might have been, "if only…"

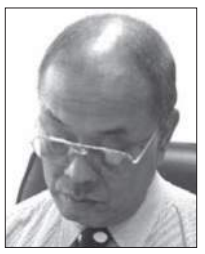
"Indecisiveness" works both ways, but many have chosen to engage the word in the service of the seemingly sociological therapy that the blame-game rhetoric provides.

U.S. "indecisiveness" began when older George Bush decided that Marine's presence in Somalia was limited to humanitarian tasks. The military command resented that since their skill was sharper at the shooting range than at handling the shovel. That "manhood" problem is now leveled against Obama, especially now that the WH has delayed deciding on the Keystone XL pipeline. In Korea, he reminded Japan to face the atrocities it committed during WWII, gingerly, after he affirmed military treaty commitments on the Senkaku/Daoyu islands. Really indecisive! In one sense, he is reclaiming foreign policy post-WWII prerogative after we depended on G.I. Joe to determine the course for us all these years.

Know what? I am glad. Now, about my manhood…

**EDITORIAL POLICY** Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Kau $30 miyon ha` balita?



**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the* Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Yangin man-fiet hit pumulan futtunan famaguon-ta, pues debi ta faisen i man-sabiun i hegsu` I Deni nu este na kuestion: Kau $30 miyon pesus ha` baliña i tautau yan Island Saipan ni mabenden ñaihon gi lai casino? Faisen kada unu ni sumupotta este na asuntu kau ennau ha` balita?

Bueno, mafa` katsu i programman man-ritirau. Lau na ti magahet na segun gi otden i kotte ha nesessita este $50 miyon gi sakan para umana` satisfechu apas man-ritirau? Tinahoñg $20 miyon pesus! Kau para umapatten tiau ta`lu haf` guaha? Ke lau kuantu mohon guaha para este na nesessidat?

Pot fabot fan mamaisen kau $30 miyon ha` balita, parehu tautau ya tanu`, taimanu `nai mabenden ñaihon ha`anen natibu gi papa` lai casino.

### Si Santo Papa Francis

Si Santo Papa Francis ha chahlau un` palabra ya ha chalapon para umapraktika ni todu katdinat, o`bispo yan mamale`: Humidde. Ha inkatga na u fan huyuñg ginen konbiñienten palasyon niha ya umarikonose todus espesiatmente ayu siha i mamoble ni chagu` yan sentrun modetnu na linala`.

Yahu mañana si Santo Papa Francis `nai ha otdin todus man-ma`gas Katoliku na u fan huyuñg ya umadaña`e ayu na tautau siha i man-dinisplanta ni chatkabales na areglon linahyan.

Yangin u tachu fitme man-ma`gas Katoliku gi tatten tautau niha ni mas man-bahu yan chatsaga, siempre umali`e sin dinida haye gi kinilu gi halom pastahe man-gaige gi chagu` na kanton kolat.

Estague` sustansian i Saina ni ha ta`lon chumoneg si Santo Papa Francis para enteru kinilu siha gi pastahen elmundu.

■■■

Guaha dibate gi entalo` man-sabiu pot ti komprendiyon haf` tutuhoña si Jesukristu. Lau repara sa` oppan finaposña gi Santa Biblia kumu magahet yan sagradu na Yuus. Sige hu akanteha haf` finu` i mas man-afamau na button elmundu kontodu Albert Einstein.

Si Einstein mañgge` ya ha aksepta na guaha mas fuetsa ke haf` nina` siñan tautau. Gaige ennau na fuetsa gi un` "kampu", kampu na para si Yuus ha` namaisa. Ti man-hulat hit guihe na kampu sa` maseñala kabales kumu kampun Yuus Tata, Lahiña yan Espiritu Santo. Manu `nai man-gaige hit estague` lugat-ta.

Mauleg in` ebalua silensiu `nos kuantos palabras gi tinayuyot miyu: Inañgoghu, dinida, hineñgge, batbaru na sensian integredat yan inasi`i. Petsonatmente este siha na palabras ha esplika un` pale` guine gi alacha pot finatton semana santa yan haf` ilelegña i bañgheliu.

Estague` kinemprendeghu: Hu añgoghu i tai hinekog na nina` siñan i Saina, taya` dinidahu nu ennau. Hu hoñgge finanagueña ya batbaruyu` dumefende hineñgeghu. Gi uttimon ha`ane bai repasa finaposhu ya bai fan asi`i gi ayu i umesague-yu`. Este na inasi`i sumede inasi`i ginen i Saina.

■■■

`Nai binatañgga i ichan ni freskon mañglo`, kontodu hagun niyog yan gagu man-ginapot gi maigu` niha ya esta nina` fan e`esalau.

I siñienteta difirensiau gi kada teti i ichan. Giya guahu, naturat na klima ni rumega i tanu` dispues de anaku` na tiempon somnag `sino maipe. `An uchan fresku, pa`gu `an kulan tiñgtiñg i semnag pues esta hana` fañichichi hit. Hagu un` negosiu haf` para un` chogue gi todu atmos bandan klima.

Lokue`, `an uchan gi ha`anen fandañgo ileg niha man-amku` na muñera i nobia. Pa`gu `an teti anaku` na uchan ni dispasiu, ileg niha ta`lu man-amku` "uchan ma`adde". Guaha mohon uchan kinilag?

Lau lamayot patte namagof i finatton uchan sa` ha sede i tinanom ruminueba siha dispues de mana` fan tostus ni fette na tiempon somnag. Kontodu espirituta ha ta`lun ruminueba sa` fresko!

■■■

Hu li`e un` amiguhu na kulan hafa` bisiu malag i konfisenariu. Huna` hassu na yangin lokue` inipos bisitasioña guatu gi konfisenariu, siña ha` si San Pedro pinateg guieñgña `an mattu gi lamasan man-husga. Deste ayu ha utot mas malag i konfisenariu. Pindehu!

■■■

I otru appenas kumonfisat sa` hasan-gue` umisau. Hu faisen kau i sinakeña latan ham gi tenda mauleg manunog ñaihon? Piniloña buente na tinife` to`an papaya. Demoñu!

■■■

Ha faisenyu` un` prohimu kau guaha `nai hu li`e flitadan guaka `an mapega gi kahon ais. Lau dispues hana` maipe ya ha gulusune kulan mohon taya` agupa`. Dos semana malofan hu huñgog na gaige gi ICU pot chetnot korason. Hambientu!

■■■

Ilegña un` kandidatu na malalagugue` para offisinan gobietnu. Hu faisen na hafa guaha? Ha oppeyu` na ha espipiha i offisinan gobietnu.

Hu sañgane na gi uttimu na biahe `nai mattuyu` gi hegsu' I Deni`, gagaige ha` guihe i offisina ni ha aliligau. Chumaleg tuyan! Demoñu!

■■■

Guaha lokue` muna` fan atotpe finu` Chamorro `nai ilegña na malalagogue "para bai gobietno". Huna` hassu na trabiha chagu` i botasion. Lau ha insiste na para u gobietnu. Ayu ha` na konbetsasion mame maliñgu kuatru botu. Fana`an para gobietnun halom karisu! Tontu!

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Is the CNMI government business friendly?

I have been conducting business in the CNMI for over 25 years but am now struggling to survive due to illegal, unfair, and unethical business practices of "rubber stampers," their CW solicitors, and unethical architects and engineers who use these individuals.

Rubber stamping occurs when an unqualified or unlicensed individual approves plans that are not in their area of expertise, for example, an architect or a civil engineer who stamps their approval of electrical designs or having an off-island electrical Professional Engineer certify the plan. This approval should only be done by a CNMI licensed electrical Professional Engineer. The off-island rubber stampers practice without a CNMI business license and do not pay BGRT or income taxes to the CNMI.

In spite of my numerous complaints to the Board of Professional Licensing, whose mandate is to safeguard the life, health, property, and welfare of the public by monitoring the practices of certain professional occupations, promote professional conduct, enforce laws and regulations, and provide information so that the public can make informed decisions, they have yet to address the illegal conduct of businesses that routinely use the services of off-island rubber stampers or certify plans that they are not qualified to certify. The BOPL appears to help the violators by not requiring them to comply with existing laws, rules, and regulations.

However, the board will not allow my company to obtain a business license unless I obtain a tax clearance. Of course, this does not apply if you don't have a CNMI business license. What's wrong with this picture? This is not a level playing field as these violators are not required to obtain a business license or tax clearances, or renew their professional license as I am required to do for my company that has been legally conducting business in the CNMI.

My letters of complaint has gone unanswered by the Office of the Attorney General, Department of Public Works, Department of Commerce, and elected officials. Until these issues are resolved by the government, legitimate businesses will be unfairly penalized and disadvantaged by requirements that apparently do not apply to illegal practitioners. Again, what is wrong with this picture? Should I consider closing my business and starting a new company that will enjoy the preferential treatment afforded illegal business practitioners? I recommend that the BOPL and government officials correct this problem by enforcing existing laws or the answer to my question, "Is the CNMI government business friendly?" will have to be, "Yes, if your business is "connected."

**Jose Tenorio Santos Servino, PE**
*President, Advanced Engineering Consulting Co.*
*San Jose, Saipan*

# Not all money is good money: Part II

With two investors for the casino the question is simple: Will it be Best Sunshine or Stars Entertainment money? It is clear that we can't stop our government from pushing this casino down our throats, then at the very least give the people the investor that offers the best taste for the CNMI as former lieutenant governor Benjamin Manglona might say. But to the point, it is obvious something is very seriously wrong with Best Sunshine and its obvious the senators are really new at this game and don't even know they have been bamboozled or they're just playing dumb!

If I found out that the ownership of the Best Sunshine bid and the investors that the senators met in Hong Kong are one and the same, why didn't they know? These giant corporations have dozens of subsidiaries and it seems the primary owners switched to another subsidiary company for the bid. There are a number of reasons why they would make this switch but none of them are good nor to the benefit of the CNMI, which is why the governor and senators didn't know or they are playing dumb using plausible deniability for excuse. I'm just glad the DPS commissioner and attorney general will be checking out both investors, especially the Best Sunshine connections as the Securities and Futures Commission is already undertaking legal proceedings against First Natural Foods' founder.

Some of our leaders obviously didn't know it was two investors but if they had done their homework like they should have before approving the casino like I did, they would have found out that Stars was literally being forced to protect and defend their millions invested in the Dynasty by placing a bid with the one million to win the casino bid. It is sad that it has come to this but at least we know for a fact that Stars' money is good money and probably the best working relationship with the CNMI if it must be. But if the casino and gaming laws are repealed and the economic initiative is passed it is for certain we will generate the revenues we need and more to cancel the casino and refund the $30 million, which should be fine with Stars!

With the repeal of the e-gaming and casino laws, there will be a real possibility for resolving the casino bid by compromise with no need to refund the $30 million if and only if Stars gets the bid. I was informed during my inquiries that Stars is willing to compromise and support a law that will require individuals to be a guest in the hotel or accompanied by a guest in the hotel to enter the casino, which will protect the local population from undesired access to a casino. So the yes vote on the referendum and initiative still has the potential to make everyone happy as we can still have the casino with the removal of the poker machines to the poker arcades and the other improvements in the economic initiative.

Signing and voting yes to the people's referendums and economic initiative is the best way for retirees and every voter to take back control of our government and send a strong message that no means no and that we the people can fix things ourselves.

P.S.: For the first time in a very long time there is genuine excitement about the coming election and it is not about who will be governor but the possibility of legalizing marijuana and the revenues that will be generated from this new industry. For the first time in a long time the people will finally have the chance to change and fix things for the better!

**Ambrose M Bennett**
*Kagman, Saipan*

# JOHN

*From Page 10*

being canonized Sunday were united in everything that matters. They were different in personality, and different in the urgent problems of their time; but they were one in heart and mind, and in their love for God and his people.

That unity is what we need to see in John XXIII and John Paul II. Their lives are part of the same grand narrative, the same story of discipleship. That remarkable witness is what Pope Francis and all Catholics celebrate Sunday.

*Charles J. Chaput is the archbishop of Philadelphia. Readers may send him email at communof@archphila.org. He wrote this for* The Philadelphia Inquirer.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Damaging winds. Cloudy with numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms. Northeast winds 30 to 40 mph. | Partly sunny with isolated showers. South winds 15 to 20 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲82° ▼74° | ▲87° ▼75° | ▲88° ▼77° | ▲88° ▼77° | ▲88° ▼77° |

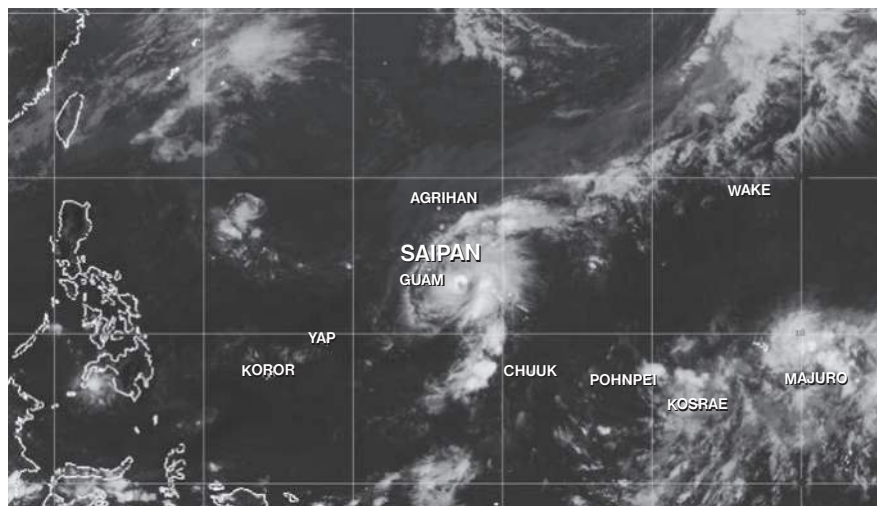
## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thundershowers | ▲85 | ▼79 |
| Palau | Mostly Sunny | ▲82 | ▼80 |
| Yap | Mostly Sunny | ▲82 | ▼80 |
| Chuuk | Mostly Sunny | ▲83 | ▼80 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲82 | ▼79 |
| Kosrae | Showers | ▲82 | ▼79 |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | ▲82 | ▼80 |

## Around The Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Showers | ▲64 | ▼53 |
| Beijing | Sunny | ▲81 | ▼52 |
| Hong Kong | Mostly Sunny | ▲80 | ▼72 |
| Honolulu | Sunny | ▲83 | ▼69 |
| London | Showers | ▲65 | ▼50 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲90 | ▼64 |
| Manila | Thunderstorms | ▲84 | ▼76 |
| Melbourne | Rainy | ▲65 | ▼48 |
| Miami | Mostly Sunny | ▲86 | ▼77 |
| New York | Showers | ▲51 | ▼46 |
| Osaka | Rain | ▲65 | ▼61 |
| Paris | Showers | ▲63 | ▼47 |
| Pusan | Rain | ▲63 | ▼51 |
| Rome | Partly Cloudy | ▲68 | ▼51 |
| Salem | Mostly Cloudy | ▲63 | ▼48 |
| San Francisco | Sunny | ▲65 | ▼51 |
| Seoul | Rain | ▲64 | ▼50 |
| Tokyo | Mostly Cloudy | ▲70 | ▼61 |
| Washington, DC | Rain | ▲54 | ▼53 |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2014**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Tapah(06W) is centered 170 miles east-southeast of Guam near 13N147E. Tropical Storm Taphah is slowly moving northward at about 10 mph with maximum winds of 60 mph. Numerous showers and thunderstorms are occurring within 60 miles of the tropical storm. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are located in a band southeast of the center within 75 miles of a line from 5N146E to 9N149E and from 10N to 16N between 144E and 151E. For more information on Tapah, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and advisories issued by the National Weather Service on Guam under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. A cold front extends southwestward from 25N163E to north of Tropical Storm Tapah at 16N146E and then continues as a shear line to north of Yap at 13N138E and finally turning northwestward to beyond 17N130E. Cloudiness, scattered showers and a few thunderstorms can be found along and up to 130 miles north of this boundary. A surface trough curves northeastward from EQ159E to 8N170E. Extensive cloudiness, scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found south of line from EQ160E to 8N160E to 8N165E to 12N170E farther to the east. Trade-wind convergence expands over the Marshall Islands. Cloudiness, scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms can be seen from 3N to 12N between 170E and the dateline.

## Tides

**Saipan Harbor**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2:35 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.7 Feet |
| 8:04 AM | Today | High Tide: | 2.0 Feet |
| 3:03 PM | Today | Low Tide: | -0.2 Feet |
| 9:32 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.9 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 5:55 AM | 6:34 PM |
| Wednesday | 5:54 AM | 6:34 PM |
| Thursday | 5:54 AM | 6:35 PM |
| Friday | 5:53 AM | 6:35 PM |
| Saturday | 5:53 AM | 6:35 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 5:41 AM | 6:35 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:29 AM | 7:30 PM |
| Thursday | 7:17 AM | 8:24 PM |
| Friday | 8:07 AM | 9:16 PM |
| Saturday | 8:57 AM | 10:05 PM |

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

**PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

**POLICY**

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2014

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA5070 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily |
| UA5068 | 8:00am | 8:50am | 3 |
| UA5068 | 8:40am | 9:30am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| UA5078 | 3:10pm | 4:00pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| UA5039 | 6:55pm | 8:35pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota |
| UA5038 | 7:45pm | 8:35pm | 2, 6 |
| UA5078 | 8:10pm | 9:00pm | 3 |

**GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA5038 | 5:35pm | 6:10pm | 2, 6 |

**ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA5038 | 6:40pm | 7:15pm | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL287 | 6:05am | 8:45am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 |
| DL297 | 4:30pm | 7:25pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 4, 7 |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ606 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ606 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| OZ604 | 3:30pm | 6:55pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU764 | 4:00am | 8:00am | 1, 5 |

**SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ606/701 | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ606/701 | 2:50am | 11: 05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA5070/191 | 4:15am | 8:55am | 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| DL287/473 | 6:05am | 10:40pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT |
| UA5068/183 | 8:00am | 9:10pm | 3 via GUM |
| UA5078/183 | 3:10pm | 8:45pm | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA5078/183 | 3:10pm | 9:10pm | 1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ604/703 | 3:30pm | 10:45pm | Daily via ICN |

**SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ606/721 | 2:20am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ606/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA5068/179 | 8:00am | 9:55pm | 3 via GUM |
| UA5078/179 | 3:10pm | 9:55pm | 1, 5, 6 via GUM |
| OZ604/749 | 3:30pm | 11:00pm | Daily via ICN |

### ARRIVALS

**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA5069 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA5071 | 6:40am | 7:30am | 3 |
| UA5071 | 7:15am | 8:05am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| UA5077 | 1:50pm | 2:40pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| UA5039 | 5:35pm | 6:25pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5038 | 5:35pm | 7:15pm | 2, 6 via Rota |
| UA5077 | 6:50pm | 7:40pm | 3 |

**SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA5039 | 6:55pm | 7:30pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA5039 | 8:00pm | 8:35pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL298 | 10:25am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| DL288 | 8:55pm | 1:25am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:00pm | 1:50am+1 | 3, 6 |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ603 | 8:50am | 2:20pm | Daily |
| OZ605 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ605 | 8:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |

**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8647 | 10:40pm | 5:00am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

**BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU763 | 7:20pm | 3:00am+1 | 4, 7 |

**GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |

**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL172/288 | 7:45am | 1:25am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT |
| UA190/5039 | 9:55am | 6:25pm | 7 via Guam |
| UA190/5038 | 9:55am | 7:15pm | 6 via Rota-Guam |
| UA190/5077 | 9:55am | 7:40pm | 3 via Guam |
| OZ702/605 | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ702/605 | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| UA184/5071 | 10:25pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam |
| UA184/5038 | 10:25pm | 7:15pm+1 | 1 via Rota-Guam |
| UA184/5071 | 11:30pm | 7:30am+1 | 2 via Guam |
| UA184/5038 | 11:30pm | 7:15pm+1 | 5 via Rota-Guam |

**HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ722/605 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/605 | 1:10pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA180/5071 | 9:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

# Business

# Supreme Court takes on privacy in digital age

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Two Supreme Court cases about police searches of cellphones without warrants present vastly different views of the ubiquitous device.

Is it a critical tool for a criminal or is it an American's virtual home?

How the justices answer that question could determine the outcome of the cases being argued Tuesday. A drug dealer and a gang member want the court to rule that the searches of their cellphones after their arrest violated their right to privacy in the digital age.

The Obama administration and California, defending the searches, say cellphones are no different from anything else a person may be carrying when arrested. Police may search those items without a warrant under a line of high court cases reaching back 40 years.

What's more, said Donald Verrilli Jr., the administration's top Supreme Court lawyer, "Cellphones are now critical tools in the commission of crimes."

The cases come to the Supreme Court amid separate legal challenges to the massive warrantless collection of telephone records by the National Security Agency and the government's use of technology to track Americans' movements.

AP

People walk on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington on Saturday April 26, 2014.

Librarians, the news media, defense lawyers and civil liberties groups on the right and left are trying to convince the justices that they should take a broad view of the privacy issues raised when police have unimpeded access to increasingly powerful devices that may contain a wealth of personal data: emails and phone numbers, photographs, information about purchases and political affiliations, books and a gateway to even more material online.

"Cellphones and other portable electronic devices are, in effect, our new homes," the American Civil Liberties Union said in a court filing that urged the court to apply the same tough standards to cellphone searches that judges have historically applied to police intrusions into a home.

Under the Constitution's Fourth Amendment, police generally need a warrant before they can conduct a search. The warrant itself must be based on "probable cause," evidence that a crime has been committed.

But in the early 1970s, the Supreme Court carved out exceptions for officers dealing with people they have arrested. The court was trying to set clear rules that allowed police to look for concealed weapons and prevent the destruction of evidence. Briefcases, wallets, purses and crumpled cigarette packs all are fair game if they are being carried by a suspect or within the person's immediate control.

# FHB Q1 earnings at $53.2M

**HAGÅTÑA, Guam**—First Hawaiian Bank, Hawaii's largest and oldest bank announced yesterday 2014 first quarter net income of $53.2 million, compared to $52.6 million earned in the first quarter of 2013. First Hawaiian grew its total assets to $17.3 billion, an increase of 5.3 percent over 2013. The bank's loan and lease portfolio reached $9.5 billion and deposits achieved a high of $13.8 billion for the first quarter of 2014, increases of 4.9 percent and 7.7 percent, respectively, compared to the first quarter of 2013. The announcement was made by Bob Harrison, First Hawaiian Bank president and CEO.

**» Achieves record levels in deposits and loans**

"First Hawaiian Bank's solid performance in the first quarter showed year-overyear growth resulting in record levels for deposits and loans," said Harrison. "Our strategic focus of building customer relationships continues to help us grow our deposits. We view lending as an opportunity to help strengthen our community and it is the reason why loans continue to be a core strength for us."

Compared to the previous year, for the first three months ending March 31, 2014, First Hawaiian achieved the following:

■ **Total Assets:** reached a record $17.3 billion, up 5.3 percent.

■ **Total Loans and Leases:** were $9.5 billion, up 4.9 percent.

■ **Total Deposits:** were a record $13.8 billion, an increase of 7.7 percent.

■ **Nonperforming Assets to Total Assets:** remained one of the lowest in the banking industry at 0.18 percent.

■ **Efficiency Ratio:** was 45.09 percent making First Hawaiian the most productive bank in Hawaii and one of the most efficient in the nation.

In the first quarter of 2014, First Hawaiian noted several accomplishments and milestones:

■ The bank expanded its FHB Online service to include trust, investment and insurance accounts. This new enhancement allows customers the convenience of single point of access to their accounts to monitor investment balances, review detailed breakdown of their asset allocation and holdings, and download and view monthly reports. FHB

Online is available through FHB's Mobile Banking service which allows customers to use their smartphones or tablets to bank-on-the-go.

■ First Hawaiian Bank launched its Community Care Employee Volunteer Service program to provide volunteer opportunities for employees working together in teams to assist non-profits. Employees are organizing volunteer service projects throughout 2014 on all islands, on Guam and Saipan. In first quarter 2014, over 130 employees supported the Great Aloha Run and over 250 employees helped the Department of Education and Hawaii 3R's with $200,000 worth of repairs at Manoa Elementary, Kawananakoa Middle School, and Waialua High School.

■ For the seventh year in a row, the Blood Bank of Hawaii named First Hawaiian Bank it's #1 Lifesaver Club among Hawaii's financial institutions for employee donation of 770 pints of blood, the most ever for any financial institution.

■ The First Hawaiian Bank quarterly Business Activity Report (BAR) showed Hawaii credit and debit card sales transactions up 3.82 percent with growth in 13 of the 16 sectors. This was the 17th consecutive quarter of positive growth overall. Medical Services (14.15%) and Home Improvement (13.92%) were the top two sectors with both sectors posting their highest growth increase since 2010.

First Hawaiian Bank (www.fhb.com) with $17.3 billion in total assets was founded in 1858 and is Hawaii's oldest and largest bank. It is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BNP Paribas, a leading global financial services institution. ***(FHB)***

# Discrimination potential seen in `big data' use

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—A White House review of how the government and private sector use large sets of data has found that such information could be used to discriminate against Americans on issues such as housing and employment even as it makes their lives easier in many ways.

"Big data" is everywhere.

It allows mapping apps to ping cellphones anonymously and determine, in real time, what roads are the most congested. But it also can be used to target economically vulnerable people.

The issue came up during a 90-day review ordered by President Barack Obama, White House counselor John Podesta said in an interview with The Associate Press. Podesta did not discuss all the findings, but said the potential for discrimination is an issue that warrants a closer look.

Federal laws have not kept up with the rapid development of technology in a way that would shield people from discrimination.

The review, expected to be released within the next week, is the Obama administration's first attempt at addressing the vast landscape of challenges, beyond national security and consumer privacy, posed by technological advancements.

President Barack Obama requested the review in January, when he called for changes to some of the National Security Agency's surveillance programs that amass large amounts of data belonging to Americans and foreigners.

The technology that enabled those programs also enables others used in the government and the private sector. The White House separately has reviewed the NSA programs and proposed changes to rein in the massive collection of Americans' phone records and emails.

# Delta joins first lady in supporting veteran hiring

ATLANTA and FORT CAMPBELL, K.Y.—Delta Air Lines this week joined first lady Michelle Obama, Jill Biden and other public and civic leaders at the Fort Campbell Veterans Job Summit and Career Forum as part of the carrier's strong commitment to military hiring initiatives and support of those individuals transitioning from military to civilian life.

"Delta has a strong and proud tradition of providing employment opportunities for those individuals who have served our country and we're committed to continuing an open dialogue with business leaders and elected officials to develop best practices and recruitment strategies," said Jim Graham, v.p. of Flying Operations and Chief Pilot and the executive sponsor of Delta's Veteran Employee Network. "We're excited the First Lady has made veteran hiring a key objective and look forward to welcoming qualified military applicants to the Delta family."

At the job summit, Delta participated on a panel discussion with other large employers, discussing the importance of veterans in civilian jobs and strategies for success during and after the transition to non-military jobs.

The airline recently extended its commitment to the 100,000 Jobs Mission and will, together with more than 130 other companies, work to hire 200,000 U.S. military veterans by 2020 after the coalition exceeded its original goal. Delta currently employs more than 10,000 veterans, including many pilots who have military backgrounds and in Nov. 2012 was awarded the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award for its commitment to employees serving in the National Guard and Reserve. ***(Delta)***

# Nation

## Tornadoes strike central, southern US, killing 12

**MAYFLOWER, Arkansas** (AP)—A tornado system ripped through the central U.S. and left at least 12 dead in a violent start to this year's storm season, officials said.

Matt DeCample, a spokesman for Arkansas Gov. Mike Beebe, said 11 in his state were killed Sunday when a tornado carved through several Little Rock suburbs. A separate tornado from the same storm system killed one person in Oklahoma.

The large tornado outside Little Rock, Arkansas, stayed on the ground as it moved northeastward for at least 30 miles (48 kilometers).

Emergency workers and volunteers went door-to-door to look for victims. Law enforcement officers checked the damaged and toppled 18-wheelers, cars and trucks on a stretch of Interstate 40, a major thoroughfare in and out of the state's capital.

"It turned pitch black," said Mark Ausbrooks, who was at his parents' home when the storm arrived. "I ran and got pillows to put over our heads and ... all hell broke loose."

"My parents' home, it's gone completely," he said.

AP

This photo provided by James Bryant shows tornado damage, Sunday, April 27, 2014 in Mayflower, Ark.

Tornadoes also touched down in Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas, where dozens of homes in Baxter Springs were destroyed. Twenty-five people were injured and one person died, but it wasn't clear if the death was related to the storm, said Kari West, a spokeswoman for the Southeast Kansas Incident Management Team.

Forecasters had warned for days that violent weather would strike over the weekend.

In Arkansas, Pulaski County Sheriff's Lt. Carl Minden said three people were killed when a tornado destroyed a home west of Little Rock. Minden said several others were injured at the scene.

"I'm standing on the foundation of the house now. It's totally gone," Minden told The Associated Press by phone.

In Oklahoma, Ottawa County Emergency Management director Joe Dan Morgan said Quapaw, which has about 900 residents, was heavily damaged.

"Looks like about half of town got extensive damage as well as the fire department," Morgan said.

Authorities earlier had said two were killed in Quapaw. Sheriff's dispatcher Kelli Soechs declined to explain the discrepancy.

Six people were treated for tornado-related injuries at Baptist Regional Health Center, said hospital spokeswoman Kristie Wallace.

The Missouri Highway Patrol reported a tractor-trailer was blown onto its side on Interstate 70. No one was injured.

## Teen stowaway desperate to see mother

**SAN JOSE, Calif.** (AP)—He was young, displaced and frustrated, and he wanted nothing more than to reunite with his mother in their native Africa.

The 15-year-old Somali boy had been arguing at home, and in the kind of impulsive move that teenagers make, he hopped a fence at San Jose International Airport last Sunday and clambered into a wheel well of a Hawaii-bound jetliner.

He survived the trip, and he has not spoken publicly about the ordeal.

But his desperation and frustration—borne from a life in a new country and new culture, all of it without his mother—is becoming apparent through interviews with friends, family and law enforcement agents.

The boy is "struggling adjusting to life in this country," his father, Abdulahi Yusuf, said in a statement issued Sunday through the Council on American-Islamic Relations' San Francisco Bay Area chapter.

"Our situation was aggravated by our displacement in Africa for many years after fleeing our home country of Somalia because of war conditions. As a result, my son was not able to receive any formal education before we immigrated to the United States," the statement said.

The father said he plans to fly to Hawaii soon to reunite with his son and is "excited to bring him back home to his family in California." He said the family was "deeply concerned" when the boy went missing and was relieved to hear he was safe.

The struggles faced by immigrant children were echoed by Talha Nooh from the Muslim Community Association, where the family were members.

"What people need to understand is that these young teens are coming from a country torn by a civil war with no basic education and suddenly put in these high schools or elementary schools where they have a cultural shock," Nooh said.

"This whole thing should be looked at in the context of a teen who is emotionally attached to his mom and grandparents," Nooh said. "The father is working 24 hours a day to take care of family here and other family members in the horn of Africa."

For decades, Somalia, where the family is from, has been plagued with internal conflict, drought and violence. Today more than 1 million Somali refugees are living in neighboring Kenya, Ethiopia and Yemen.

A United Nations official told The Associated Press that the boy's mother, 33, lives at the Sheder Refugee Camp in Ethiopia, which houses about 10,200 displaced Somalis.

Speaking with Voice of America radio from a refugee camp in eastern Ethiopia, the teen's mother, Ubah Mohamed Abdullahi, said her son had recently learned that she was alive after being told by his father she had died.

"I know he was looking for me, and I am requesting the U.S. government to help me reunite with my kids," she told VOA. She said her ex-husband took their three children to California without her knowledge, and that she hadn't heard from them since 2006.

But community members said the parents had gone through a difficult divorce and that there are differing versions of what their children were told. The family is working with the Council on American-Islamic Relations to help communicate with medical providers, law enforcement, social workers and the media.

School district officials confirmed the boy came to the U.S. four years ago.

A teenage friend in California, who asked to remain anonymous because he was not authorized to speak for the family, said the boy was quiet, shy and religious, sorely missing his mother.

"Every day he was telling me: `I miss Somalia, I miss my mom,'" the friend said. "He just wanted to see his mom."

Last Sunday, he hid in the wheel well for the 5 1/2-hour trip over the Pacific Ocean to Hawaii. He survived despite incredibly low temperatures and low oxygen. Authorities say security video shows him wearing a San Francisco Giants hoodie and popping out of the wheel well on a Maui tarmac.

He has remained hospitalized in Hawaii.

## Autopsy: Student died of stab wounds to neck, body

**HARTFORD, Conn.** (AP)—A 16-year-old girl stabbed at her high school on the day of her junior prom died of wounds to her torso and neck, Connecticut's chief medical examiner said Sunday.

The medical examiner's office ruled that Maren Sanchez's death was a homicide. A 16-year-old male classmate is charged with murder as a juvenile in the stabbing at Jonathan Law High School in Milford. The attack occurred Friday morning, hours before the school's prom, and authorities are investigating whether Sanchez was stabbed after turning down the boy's invitation to the dance.

Police haven't released the suspect's name, but people who saw him taken into custody identified him as Chris Plaskon, a friend of the victim's and an athlete described as genial and respectful.

Plaskon's attorney, Richard Meehan, says his client is being held in a hospital under psychiatric evaluation. Plaskon will not appear at an arraignment scheduled for Monday in New Haven, the attorney said.

Meehan has said he expects his client to eventually be charged as an adult and that the suspect's family is reeling from the attack.

"His family is devastated not only for him, but the youngster who was killed. It's a terrible situation all the way around," Meehan said.

Mark Robinson, a technical education teacher who saw the suspect being taken out of the school in handcuffs, said Plaskon is the third of five brothers and has a good sense of humor. His family has deep roots in the community, Robinson said.

"There's no reason to suspect he would have done this. I think that's what makes it harder," Robinson said.

Classmate Imani Langston, who saw Plaskon being read his rights and taken away in a police car, said Sanchez and the boy were just friends and had never dated.

Sanchez, a member of the National Honor Society who was active in drama and other school activities, had been focused on prom in the days before her death. She had posted a photograph on Facebook of her blue prom dress and was looking forward to attending with a new boyfriend.

Milford Alderwoman Greta Stanford said the school would remain closed Monday.

## ACROSS THE NATION

### California mom tells police she stabbed infant son

**LIVERMORE, Calif.** (AP)—A young mother believed to be suffering from depression admitted to investigators that she stabbed her 7-month-old son to death in a Northern California park, police said Sunday. Ashley Newton, 23, of San Jose was arrested Saturday on suspicion of murder, the East Bay Regional Parks District Police Department said in a statement. Investigators continue to interview her family and friends in an attempt to make sense of the alleged crime. "This is an extremely shocking case for us," said Chief Timothy Anderson of the park's police department.

### NY bill would bar condoms as proof of prostitution

**ALBANY, N.Y.** (AP)—New York City spends more than a million dollars every year to distribute free condoms to combat unintended pregnancies and diseases such as AIDS. Yet city police are allowed to confiscate those very condoms as evidence of prostitution. That conflict is behind the latest legislative proposal to make New York the first state to prohibit condoms—specifically the existence of multiple condoms—from being used as evidence in prostitution cases, a widespread practice that advocates say undermines decades of public health goals. "There may be no actual evidence, and the condom is their only way to trying to prove it," said Hawk Kinkaid, a former male escort who now advocates on their behalf in New York City. "The fear that this will be used against you—it prevents people from being able to protect themselves."

# Asia

# In Asia, Obama carefully calibrates China message

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia** (AP)—President Barack Obama is hopscotching through China's neighborhood with a carefully calibrated message for Beijing, trying both to counter and court.

During visits to U.S. allies, Obama has signaled that American military power can blunt Chinese aggression in the Asia-Pacific region, even as he urges Beijing to use its growing clout to help resolve international disputes with Russia and North Korea.

The dual tracks underscore Beijing's outsized importance to Obama's four-country swing through Asia, even though China is absent from his itinerary.

The president opened a long-awaited visit to Malaysia on Saturday, following stops in Japan and South Korea, and ahead of a visit to the Philippines. On a hot and muggy Sunday morning, the president padded through the National Mosque of Malaysia in black socks, removing his shoes in keeping with protocol, and stopped for a few moments to bow his head in the mausoleum, where two former prime ministers and two former deputies are buried. He later met privately with current Prime Minister Najib Razak at his residence.

Obama's trip comes at a tense time for the region, where China's aggressive stance in territorial disputes has its smaller neighbors on edge.

There also are continued questions about the White House's commitment to a greater U.S. focus on Asia. In an affirmation, Obama is expected to sign a security agreement with the Philippines clearing the way for an increased American troop presence there.

In Tokyo, Obama asserted that a treaty obligating the U.S. to defend Japan would apply if Beijing makes a move on a string of islands in the East China Sea that Japan administers but China also claims.

Yet at times, the president has tempered his tough talk in an attempt to avoid antagonizing Beijing.

To the chagrin of the Japanese, Obama said the U.S. would not pick sides in the sovereignty claims at the heart of the region's territorial disputes. He repeatedly declared that the U.S. is not asking Asian allies to choose between a relationship with Washington and Beijing.

"I think there's enormous opportunities for trade, development, working on common issues like climate change with China," Obama said during a news conference in Tokyo. "But what we've also emphasized—and I will continue to emphasize throughout this trip—is that all of us have responsibilities to help maintain basic rules of the road and an international order."

U.S. officials see Russia's provocations in Ukraine and North Korea's nuclear threats as tests of China's willingness to take on more responsibility in enforcing global norms.

Cut off from most of the world economy, North Korea is deeply dependent on Chinese trade and assistance, giving Beijing enormous leverage. The U.S. and its allies, including South Korea, have pressed China to wield that influence more aggressively with the North, which is threatening to launch a fourth nuclear test.

"China's influence in North Korea is indeed huge," South Korean President Park Geun-hye said Friday during Obama's visit to Seoul.

Beijing has a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council and has supported some efforts to penalize North Korea, but has not taken sweeping unilateral actions to choke off the North's economy.

As with North Korea, the crisis in Ukraine has again put Obama in the position of asking China to prioritize international order over its own close relationship with Moscow.

China and Russia frequently join forces as a counterweight to the West. But in the face of Vladimir Putin's aggression in Ukraine, the Obama administration has sought to temper Beijing's support for Putin by appealing to China's traditional aversion to foreign meddling in domestic affairs.

The White House has little expectation that China will fully abandon the Kremlin and join with Western nations in levying sanctions on Russia. U.S. officials are hoping China will at least avoid making overt gestures of support for Russia's actions, and were heartened when China abstained in a Security Council vote condemning Moscow.

Analysts say Obama can maintain a China policy that both looks to Beijing for help while also trying to counter its rise, but only if the dividing line between those positions remains clear.

"If you are consistent, they'll be willing to have you push them occasionally on things that are sensitive or where there are areas of dispute," Chris Johnson, a China scholar at the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies, said of Beijing's leaders. "It's where you're not consistent and they're not sure what you're going to do next that causes them a great amount of consternation."

China will factor into Obama's meetings in Southeast Asia, given that Beijing has territorial disputes with both Malaysia and the Philippines. Obama had planned to visit both countries in October, but canceled the trip due to a government shutdown in Washington.

Obama's visit to Malaysia is the first by an American president since Lyndon B. Johnson traveled here more than four decades ago. Obama was feted by Malaysia's royal family at a state dinner Saturday night and had planned to meet later Sunday with young Southeast Asian leaders.

**Disputed territories**

*During his recent state visit to Japan, President Barack Obama sided with the Japanese in their dispute with China over a group of small islands in the East China Sea. Some examples of the many territorial disputes in the Asia-Pacific region:*

**1. Ayungin Shoal** The Philippine Navy maintains a few Marines on a beached ship to fend off Chinese Coast Guard vessels

**2. Scarborough Shoal** Major fishing grounds for Vietnam, the Philippines and China; all three countries have claimed and skirmished over it

**3. Strait of Malacca** China worries about disruptions along this major shipping lane; China gets much of its oil and sends its exports to the Middle East and Europe via the strait

**4. Spratly and Paracel islands** China, Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam have overlapping claims

**5. Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands** Japan controls the islands it calls Senkaku; China disputes the claim; it calls them Diaoyu; Taiwan also has a claim

**6. Liancourt Rocks** Claimed by both Japan and South Korea; the islets lie in rich fishing grounds, possible deposits of natural gas

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Source: Congressional Research Service, McClatchy Washington Bureau

## Missing plane's search area to be expanded

**CANBERRA, Australia** (AP)—The underwater hunt for the missing Malaysia Airlines jet will be expanded to include a massive swath of ocean floor that may take up to eight months to thoroughly search, Australia's prime minister said Monday.

The U.S. Navy's Bluefin 21 robotic submarine has spent weeks scouring the initial search area for Flight 370 in the remote Indian Ocean far off Australia's west coast, but has found no trace of the missing aircraft, Prime Minister Tony Abbott said. Officials are now looking to bring in new equipment that can search a larger patch of seabed for the plane, Abbott said.

"It is highly unlikely at this stage that we will find any aircraft debris on the ocean surface. By this stage, 52 days into the search, most material would have become waterlogged and sunk," Abbott told reporters. "Therefore, we are moving from the current phase to a phase which is focused on searching the ocean floor over a much larger area."

Radar and satellite data show the jet carrying 239 passengers and crew veered far off course on March 8 for unknown reasons during a flight from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing.

# Bad weather hinders search for ferry dead

**JINDO, South Korea** (AP)—Divers on Monday renewed their search for more than 100 bodies still trapped in a sunken ferry after weekend efforts were hindered by bad weather, strong currents and floating debris clogging the ship's rooms. Officials said they have narrowed down the likely locations in the ship of most of the remaining missing passengers.

Divers found only one body Sunday after a week that saw an increasing number of corpses pulled from the ship as divers made their way through its labyrinth of cabins, lounges and halls. The number of dead from the April 16 sinking is 188, with 114 people believed missing, though a government emergency task force has said the ship's passengers list could be inaccurate. Only 174 people survived, including 22 of the 29 crew members.

Senior coast guard officer Kim Suhyeon said that most of the remaining missing passengers are believed to be in 64 of the ship's 111 rooms. Divers have entered 36 of those 64 rooms, coast guard officers said, but may need to go back into some because floating debris made it difficult for divers to be sure that there are no more dead bodies.

Ko Myung-seok, an official with the emergency task force, said Monday that 92 divers would search the ferry. He also said that the government was making plans to salvage the ferry once search efforts end but that details wouldn't be available until officials talk with families of the victims.

On Sunday, South Korea's prime minister resigned over the government's handling of the sinking, blaming "deep-rooted evils" in society for the tragedy.

South Korean executive power is largely concentrated in the president, so Chung Hong-won's resignation appears to be symbolic. Presidential spokesman Min Kyung-wook said President Park Geun-hye would accept the resignation, but did not say when Chung would leave office.

Chung's resignation comes amid rising indignation over claims by the victims' relatives that the government did not do enough to rescue or protect their loved ones. Most of the dead and missing were high school students on a school trip.

Officials have taken into custody all 15 people involved in navigating the ferry Sewol, which sank April 16. The seven surviving crew members who have not been arrested or detained held non-marine jobs such as chef or steward, according to senior prosecutor Yang Jung-jin.

The arrested crew members are accused of negligence and of failing to help passengers in need. Capt. Lee Joon-seok initially told passengers to stay in their rooms and took half an hour to issue an evacuation order, by which time the ship was tilting too severely for many people to get out.

## ASIA BRIEFS

### Afghanistan flooding kills more than 100 in north

**KABUL, Afghanistan** (AP)—An official says flooding in northern Afghanistan has killed more than 100 people and driven hundreds more from their homes. The Afghan National Army was using helicopters to rescue people trapped by the waters and ferry food and water to remote areas. The Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority official said Sunday that that 111 dead bodies have been found so far form Sari Pul, Zawzjan, Faryab and Badghis provinces. Around 20 other people are still missing. The official spoke by telephone on condition of anonymity because he is not an authorized spokesman. The floods were fed by heavy rains late in the week. The official said about 1,000 people have fled their villages, after losing their houses, crops and livestock.

### Obama in Philippines, last leg on Asian tour

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—President Barack Obama is wrapping up his four-nation tour of Asia with a stop in the Philippines. Obama arrived Monday in the capital of Manila, following his earlier stops in Malaysia, Japan and South Korea. During his two-day visit to the former Spanish colony, Obama is expected to highlight a new 10-year deal between the two governments to increase the U.S. military presence in the Southeast Asian country. He's also scheduled to meet with President Benigno Aquino III and attend a state dinner in his honor. He also plans to visit the U.S. military cemetery at Fort Bonifacio and address troops there. Police last week clashed with more than 100 left-wing activists at the U.S. Embassy in Manila who rallied against Obama's visit and the new security agreement.

# World

# Poles applaud beloved John Paul II's sainthood

**KRAKOW, Poland** (AP)—Nine years after his death, tens of thousands of Poles lauded their beloved countryman, Pope John Paul II, as he was declared a saint in an unprecedented Vatican ceremony Sunday.

Bells tolled across Poland and the crowds applauded, in unison with those gathered in St. Peter's Square in Rome, when Pope Francis declared the pontiff from Poland a saint.

John Paul remains a vital figure to many of his countrymen for having helped end communism in Poland, for his support of the Solidarity freedom movement that peacefully achieved that goal in 1989, and for his teachings about human rights and dignity.

Throughout Poland, the Vatican transmission was followed by a Mass of thanksgiving for the sainthood of a figure believed to be one of the greatest Poles ever.

"This is a great day for Poland, this is a great day for me," said Maria Jurek from Katowice, her voice laden with emotion. "He changed Poland and he changed us with his teaching and with his visits here."

Her friend, Izabella Gorecka, said she felt elated and "flew" up the sanctuary steps, despite feeling hip pain.

They got up at 4:30 a.m. to join a pilgrimage organized by their parish church—complete with papal yellow and white flags, a portable canvas stool and their own food—to watch the Vatican ceremony live on giant screens at the new John Paul II sanctuary in Krakow that is competing for pilgrims with the neighboring, popular God's Mercy sanctuary.

John Paul's sanctuary, still under construction, was initiated in 2011, when the pope's personal secretary, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz placed a vial of the pontiff's blood in one of its white marble altars. The other, older sanctuary, was blessed by John Paul in 2002, and by tradition gathered larger crowds.

Born Karol Wojtyla, the pope spent 40 years in Krakow, first as a Polish language student and eventually as bishop, before becoming pope in 1978 and taking the name of John Paul. He died April 2, 2005, and his pontificate was among the longest in history. While pope, he visited Poland many times.

About 30,000 pilgrims from around Poland gathered in the two centers. The figure was much lower than on previous pope-related occasions, in a sign that memory of him was fading, while the new generation, coming of age, was less centered on religion. To Poland's believers, John Paul was always a saint, so they took his canonization as an obvious thing.

AP

Thousands of faithful gathered in front of God's Mercy sanctuary in Krakow, Poland, Sunday, April 27, 2014, to attend a mass and watch live from the Vatican as Pope Francis declares Polish-born Pope John Paul II a saint.

## Becoming saints

*Pope Francis will canonize two former popes April 27. More than a million people are expected to attend the ceremony.*

**Pope John XXIII**

**Born** 1881, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli
**Papacy** 1958-1963
**Died** 1963
**Beatified** Sept. 2000 by Pope John Paul II

**Pope John Paul II**

**Born** 1920 Karol Jozef Wojtyla
**Papacy** 1978-2005
**Died** 2005
**Beatified** 2011 by Pope Benedict XVI

### Steps to sainthood

Process of being declared a saint by the Roman Catholic Church

**Examination**
• Typically, a candidate must be dead at least five years before review
• Local bishop put in charge of investigating candidate's life
• If deemed worthy, called "servant of God"

**Veneration**
• If investigation shows candidate lived by heroic Christian virtues, earns title "venerable"

**Beatification**
• If it is proved that candidate is responsible for a posthumous miracle, candidate declared "blessed"; martyrs can be beatified without evidence of miracle

**Canonization (sainthood)**
• After proof of a second posthumous miracle, the pope will canonize the candidate

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Source: AP, Catholic Online

# Observers held in Ukraine speak under armed guard

**SLOVYANSK, Ukraine** (AP)—Pro-Russian militants in camouflage fatigues and black balaclavas paraded captive European military observers before the media on Sunday, hours after three captured Ukrainian security guards were shown bloodied, blindfolded and stripped of their trousers and shoes, their arms bound with packing tape.

The provocative displays came as the increasingly ruthless pro-Russian insurgency in the east turns to kidnapping as an ominous new tactic.

Dozens of people are being held hostage, including journalists and pro-Ukraine activists, in makeshift jails in Slovyansk, the heart of the separatists' territory, as the pro-Russian insurgents strengthen their control in defiance of the interim government in Kiev and its Western supporters.

Speaking in deliberate and clipped phrases, Col. Axel Schneider of Germany, speaking on behalf of the observers, insisted they were not NATO spies, as claimed by the insurgents, but a military observation mission operating under the auspices of the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe.

"We are not fighters, we are diplomats in uniform," he said, noting that his unarmed team included an officer from Sweden, which is not a NATO member.

The observers appeared nervous as they were escorted by the masked armed men into the Slovyansk city hall for the news conference.

Referring to himself and his team as "guests" under the "protection" of the city's self-proclaimed mayor, Schneider said they were being treated as well as possible under the circumstances.

"The mayor of this city granted us his protection and he regarded us as his guests," Schneider told journalists. "I can tell you that the word of the mayor is a word of honor. We have not been touched."

Schneider said his group, which was detained by pro-Russian militiamen outside Slovyansk on Friday, was initially kept in a basement before being moved Saturday.

"Since yesterday, we have been in a more comfortable room, which has been equipped with heating. We have daylight and an air conditioning unit," he said, "All our officers, including the interpreters, are healthy and well."

# Netanyahu warns world on Holocaust memorial day

**JERUSALEM** (AP)—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu opened the country's annual memorial day for the 6 million Jews killed in the Holocaust by issuing a stern warning Sunday to the world to learn the lessons of the past and prevent another Holocaust.

At the opening ceremony at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial, Netanyahu linked the Nazi genocide to Iran's suspected drive to acquire nuclear bombs and its leaders' repeated references to the destruction of Israel and its denial of the Holocaust. Netanyahu said that just like before World War II, there were those in the world today who refused to face uncomfortable truths.

"In this place I have said many times that we must identify an existential threat in time and act against it in time and tonight I ask `why in the years before the Holocaust did most of the world's leaders not see the danger ahead of time?' In hindsight, all the signs were there," he said.

"Has the world learned a lesson from the mistakes of the past? Today we are again faced with clear facts and before a real danger. Iran calls for our destruction, it develops nuclear weapons."

The stated links between the Holocaust and Iran showed how more than six decades later, the mass murder of Jews during World War II is still a central part of Israel's psyche. The nation was created just three years after the end of the war, and hundreds of thousands of dazed survivors made their way to Israel.

Six million Jews were killed by German Nazis and their collaborators in the Holocaust, wiping out a third of world Jewry. Today, fewer than 200,000 elderly survivors remain in Israel.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Iraq's army, police force vote for new parliament

**BAGHDAD** (AP)—Amid tight security, some one million Iraqi army and police personnel have started voting for the nation's new parliament. The voting is held two days before the rest of Iraq's 22 million registered voters can go to the polls to elect a new, 328-member chamber, the first nationwide balloting since the withdrawal of U.S. forces in late 2011. Voters at one central Baghdad polling station for military and police personnel went through four ID checks and search stations before they could enter the building on Monday. Inside, police dogs were used to search for explosives. Iraq is experiencing a surge in violence, with Sunni militants targeting security forces and members of the nation's Shiite majority. Voters in Wednesday's polls are widely expected to cast ballots along sectarian and ethnic lines.

### 3 aid workers killed in Central African Republic

**BANGUI, Central African Republic** (AP)—A spokesman for the global aid group Medecins Sans Frontieres says three of its workers have been killed in Central African Republic. Press officer Tim Shenk said Sunday that the colleagues had been killed Saturday in Nanga Boguila. The town is in the northwestern part of the country, near the border with Chad. Shenk says the aid group, also known as Doctors Without Borders, will release more details Monday. Central African Republic has been ripped apart by months of unprecedented violence between Christians and Muslims. The United Nations has described the forced displacement of tens of thousands of Muslims as "ethnic cleansing."

# Focus

AP

In this Nov. 28, 2013 photo, Rohingiya men push their boat to deeper waters in a lagoon close to the The' Chaung refugee camp on the outskirts of Sittwe, Myanmar. About 1.3 million Rohingya Muslims live in the predominantly Buddhist country of 60 million. Myanmar considers them illegal immigrants from neighboring Bangladesh, though some families have lived here for generations.

# Desperate Rohingya kids flee alone by boat

**By ROBIN McDOWELL and MARGIE MASON**
Associated Press

**SITTWE, Myanmar** (AP)—The two children stood on the beach, torn between land and sea.

They couldn't go back to their tiny Muslim village in Myanmar's northwest Rakhine because it had been burned down by an angry Buddhist mob. In the chaos, they became separated from their family and gave up hope of finding them alive after seven months of searching.

The only way was forward. Hungry and scared, Mohamad Husein, 15, and his sister Senwara Begum, 9, climbed on board a rickety boat crammed with others fleeing home.

They had no way of knowing they were among hundreds, if not thousands, of ethnic Rohingya children who have left Myanmar by sea since the country was first gripped by sectarian violence two years ago, or that they were joining one of the world's biggest boat exoduses since the Vietnam War.

Despite pleas from the United Nations, which considers members of the religious minority among the most persecuted groups on earth, nearby countries shove them back to sea or bar them altogether.

"The sense of desperation and hopelessness is growing," warned Vivian Tan of the U.N. Refugee Agency.

About 1.3 million Rohingya live in Myanmar, a predominantly Buddhist country of 60 million that only recently emerged from decades of military rule. The government considers them illegal immigrants from neighboring Bangladesh, though some families have lived here for generations.

Since the transition to democracy began three years ago, Buddhist mobs have killed up to 280 Rohingya and forced more than 140,000 others from their homes. The violence, which first flared in mid-2012, has forced about 75,000 people to flee, according to Chris Lewa of the nonprofit Arakan Project.

Nearly 2,000 people have died or gone missing at sea during that time, she added. And women and children now make up 5 percent to 15 percent of those leaving,

The Associated Press reported the children's story based on interviews and data from Myanmar, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

Their small boat was packed with 63 people, including 14 children and 10 women. They baked in the sun and vomited from the waves.

Nearly two weeks passed, and then a boat with at least a dozen Myanmar soldiers approached.

They kicked and bludgeoned the Rohingya men with wooden planks and iron rods, several passengers said.

"Tell us, do you have your Allah?" one Rohingya survivor quoted the soldiers as saying. "There is no Allah!"

They tied Mohamad's hands and lit a match, laughing as the smell of burnt flesh wafted from his blistering arm. Senwara watched helplessly.

The beatings finally stopped after Mohamad suspected money changed hands, and the soldiers ordered the boat to leave. The government said the Navy denied seizing any ships during that period.

The ship plodded on, but it was falling apart. A sarong stuffed in a hole could not stop water from bubbling through, and Senwara's sticky rice and bits of bread were gone. When they finally floated ashore in Thailand, she had no idea where she was.

Up until a few years ago, Thailand towed migrants out to sea and left them, often with little or no food, water or fuel. But after an uproar, Thai authorities began giving basic supplies to migrants before sending them on.

Sometimes, however, they direct the boats to traffickers, according to human rights groups. Those who cannot raise ransoms often escape or are sold as slaves onto fishing vessels.

AP

In this Nov. 29, 2013 photo, Rohingya men carry baskets of fish near the The' Chaung refugee camp on the outskirts of Sittwe, Myanmar.

Royal Thai Navy spokesman Rear Adm. Karn Dee-ubon said the navy always follows humanitarian principles, but added that other Thai agencies could be involved.

On shore, Mohamad and Senwara were given rice and dry fish and then put on another small boat without an engine. Thai troops pulled them far out to sea, cut the rope and left them to drift without food or water, survivors said. Senwara got sick after drinking sea water and eating ground-up wood.

The next day, they spotted a fishing boat. It was from Indonesia.

The world's most populous Muslim nation has been sympathetic to the Rohingya, but has not opened its doors to them. It only allows them to stay until they can be resettled elsewhere, which can take years. In the meantime, they are kept in overcrowded detention centers and shelters.

The Indonesian and Malaysian governments fear that letting the Rohingya stay could lead to a greater influx of illegal migrants.

"At stake is national interest," said Yan Welly, an Indonesian immigration official. "A flood of immigrants could affect efforts in coping with problems of our own people."

The number of Rohingya housed in Indonesia jumped from 439 in 2012 to 795 last year. About 20 percent of the children who arrived traveled alone, according to U.N. data.

Some register with the U.N. Refugee Agency and wait to be resettled in another country, but no Rohingya in Indonesia were referred for placement last year.

To avoid the long delay, thousands paid smugglers in the past to take them by boat to Australia's Christmas Island. But that country has shut its doors. It now transfers sea arrivals to Papua New Guinea or the tiny island of Nauru. It also tows vessels from its waters.

Once in Indonesia, after nearly a month at sea, Mohamad and Senwara were transferred to a filthy detention center with about 300 people, double its capacity. A riot soon broke out there between the Rohingya and illegal Buddhist fishermen from Myanmar, and eight Buddhists were beaten to death.

Senwara slept through the brawl in another area. When she awoke, her brother was gone.

After a few months in jail with other Rohingya arrested from the fight, Mohamad was released due to his age and left for neighboring Malaysia.

Around 33,000 Rohingya are registered in Malaysia and an equal number are undocumented, according to the Rohingya Society of Malaysia. Increasingly, migrants risk getting caught up in group arrests, and up to 1,000 have been detained in a nationwide crackdown, the Society said.

Mohamad found illegal work as a street sweeper, earning about $70 a month, and now lives in a tiny hovel with about 17 other Rohingya men. He remains tortured with guilt for leaving his little sister behind.

Soon after the detention center riot, Senwara was registered as an asylum seeker. She was moved to temporary U.N. housing in Medan, Indonesia, and taken in by a Rohingya woman. She remains hurt and angry for being left alone, and her heart aches for home.

Senwara's parents didn't learn the children were safe until more than eight months after their village was burned.

On that awful night, their mother, Anowar Begum, and father, Mohamad Idris, fled with two babies into a lake. Later, they searched frantically and found five more of their nine children. The family ended up in a squalid camp with tens of thousands of other homeless Rohingya near Rakhine state's capital, Sittwe. They had given up hope on Senwara and Mohamad by the time an unknown Rohingya called from Indonesia to say the children were safe.

Today, 22 months after their separation, it's only through technology that the family, now scattered across three countries, can remain in touch.

Mohamad, in Malaysia, watches a video clip of his sister playing soccer in Indonesia. Even as he breaks down, he cannot look away from the little girl on the screen.

Back in Myanmar, Anowar stares at her daughter on a Skype video and sobs into her headscarf. Senwara wipes away her own tears in Indonesia as her father's weathered face trembles.

They go through the questions every parent wants to know: Is she well? How is she doing in school? Is she getting enough to eat?

Her father reminds her to be a good girl. He is desperate to see his children again, but believes they are better off far away. The family often goes hungry, and there's no money for medicine.

When it's time to say goodbye, Senwara keeps staring at the screen, long after the faces are gone.

"I don't think I will ever be able to see my parents," she says, softly. "For the rest of my life."

# Overdrive

## Nissan adds economy to practicality in Pathfinder Hybrid

By G. CHAMBERS WILLIAMS III
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

NISSAN/MCT

The 2014 Nissan Pathfinder Hybrid gets up to 26 mpg in combined city/highway driving.

Take one of the best family-size crossover utility vehicles on the market, and add a gasoline-electric hybrid drive system to it, and you'll have the best of both worlds: versatility and efficiency.

That's the theory behind the all-new 2014 Nissan Pathfinder Hybrid, a great people hauler that also offers decent fuel economy: up to 26 mpg combined city/highway. That's for a vehicle that can carry up to seven adults in comfort, with no compromises.

Prices begin at $35,300 for the entry-level SV front-wheel-drive version.

It's the first in a line of new hybrid models on the way from Nissan. Also planned are hybrid versions of the redesigned Rogue compact crossover, as well as the redesigned 2015 Murano midsize crossover and the Altima sedan, which plays in the same class as the Accord, Camry, Fusion, Sonata and Optima hybrids.

The Pathfinder got a complete redesign last year that turned it into a roomy, full-size crossover. It took another big leap this year with the addition of the hybrid version.

Under the hood of the hybrid is a supercharged 2.5-liter gasoline engine coupled with a 15-kilowatt electric motor, which gets its power from a compact lithium-ion battery.

Together, they provide nearly the same power as the gasoline-only Pathfinder's 3.5-liter V-6. The hybrid has a total of 250 horsepower and 243 pound-feet of torque, compared with 260 horsepower and 240 pound-feet of torque for the 3.5-liter.

I've tested both vehicles, and the power of the hybrid feels quite similar to that of the gasoline model, although there seemed to be more pep on takeoff with the hybrid. That's because the electric motor kicks in with all of its torque right away.

At highway speeds, the hybrid has plenty of power left in reserve for passing, also thanks to the boost provided by the electric motor.

EPA ratings for the front-drive hybrid are 25 mpg city/28 highway/26 combined, compared with 20 city/26 highway/22 combined for the two-wheel drive gas model. With four-wheel drive, the hybrid gets 25/27/26, compared with 19/25/21 for the four-wheel drive gas model.

Nissan targeted the Toyota Highlander Hybrid with the design of the Pathfinder Hybrid, Nissan said. The hybrid is priced just $3,000 more than a similarly equipped gasoline-only Pathfinder, while Toyota charges a $7,000 premium for the Highlander hybrid.

Regular Pathfinder prices for 2014 begin at $28,850 for the base S version with two-wheel drive, and run as high as $41,350 for the top Platinum model with four-wheel drive.

Pathfinder hybrids have the same interior space as the gasoline versions, including ample legroom, and cargo capacity. We packed six adults into our test vehicle—including two in the third row—and everyone acknowledged having decent leg and knee room.

New for 2014 is a technology package that adds a 13-speaker Bose premium audio system with navigation, voice recognition, XM NavTraffic and NavWeather capability, Zagat Survey restaurant guide, Bluetooth streaming audio and an 8-inch color touch screen.

Our tester was the Platinum four-wheel-drive hybrid with a Platinum Package that brought a rear entertainment system. It also had roof cargo cross bars, carpeted floor mats and illuminated kick plates.

The newest Pathfinder has a unibody-style design, rather than the traditional body-on-frame arrangement of the model it replaced. It's now a top competitor in its class, which includes such stalwarts as the Highlander and Honda Pilot, thanks to its best-in-class passenger space, fuel economy and standard towing capacity.

Other competitors include the big crossovers from General Motors: the Chevrolet Traverse, Buick Enclave and GMC Acadia; and both the Ford Explorer and Ford Flex.

Riding on the same architecture as the new Infiniti QX60 (formerly JX) crossover, the Pathfinder has the same passenger capacity and a similar drivetrain as the Infiniti. The main differences between the two are the styling and the levels of standard equipment. The QX60 also got a hybrid version for 2014.

Our Pathfinder's optional dual panoramic moon roof extended all the way to the third row, and would have been great for viewing the recent lunar eclipse—if it hadn't been raining at the time.

Standard on our Platinum version were leather upholstery; heated and cooled front seats and heated second-row seats; heated steering wheel; power tilt-and-telescopic steering column; and keyless entry with pushbutton start.

All seating positions are suitable for adults, unlike many crossovers whose third row is intended for children or very small adults. Getting into and out of the rear and middle seats was made easier by the large rear door openings and the EZ Flex seating system, which allows the second-row seat to slide forward up to 5.5 inches, and to tilt, as well, for access to the third row.

The middle seat had a 60/40 split feature that allows a child-safety seat to remain in place on the curb side while the other side is moved forward to let the rear passengers in or out. With the third seat in place, there is 16 cubic feet of cargo space behind it. It has a 50/50 split-folding design, so either side, or both sides, can be folded down to increase cargo capacity.

Second- and third-row seats can be folded to create a completely flat load floor from the tailgate to the back of the front seats, giving the vehicle nearly 80 cubic feet of cargo space.

The tailgate flips up in one piece, and on the Platinum model, it's power-operated. A small storage area under the rear cargo floor provides a good place to hide valuables when the vehicle is parked.

Also included on our tester was the Nissan AroundView monitor, which shows up on the nav screen next to the rearview-camera display. Around View gives the driver a 360-degree bird's-eye view around the vehicle, using front, rear and side mini-cameras.

Pathfinders also come with a tire-pressure monitoring system with Nissan's Easy Fill Tire Alert, which beeps the horn when a tire being filled with air reaches its proper inflation level.

### NUTS & BOLTS

**2014 Nissan Pathfinder Hybrid**

- **Type of vehicle:** Large, five-door, seven-passenger, four-cylinder gasoline-electric hybrid, front- or all-wheel-drive crossover utility vehicle.
- **Rating:** 9.3 (of a possible 10).
- Highlights: Completely redesigned for 2013, the Pathfinder adds a hybrid version for 2014. With last year's makeover, the vehicle evolved into a crossover, with three rows of seats. It has plenty of power—hybrid or gasoline only—and lots of standard and optional features.
- **Negatives:** Can get pricey when options packages are added.
- **Engine:** 2.5-liter turbocharged inline four-cylinder with electric motor
- **Transmission:** Continuously variable automatic
- **Power/torque:** 250 horsepower/243 pound-feet (hybrid, total)
- **Length:** 196.9 inches
- **Curb weight range:** 4,417-4,714 pounds
- **Brakes, front/rear:** Disc/disc, antilock
- **Cargo volume:** 16 cubic feet (behind third seat); 79.8 cubic feet (second and third row seats folded down)
- **Towing capacity:** 3,500 pounds
- **Side air bags:** Front seat-mounted; roof-mounted side-curtain for all rows
- **Electronic stability control:** Standard
- **Fuel capacity/type:** 19.5 gallons, unleaded regular
- **EPA fuel economy, city/highway/combined:** 25/28/26 (front drive); 25/27/26 (AWD)
- **Base price:** $35,300
- **Price as tested, including destination charge:** $48,285

### UNDER THE HOOD

## Grand Marquis reluctant to start on cold days

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**QUESTION: I have a 2007 Mercury Grand Marquis, a great car. The only problem is it won't start when the temperature gets below 50 degrees. When I try, it cranks over fast but it won't start. If I wait 20 or 30 minutes, it will start immediately. I have had it in the shop and nothing shows on the computer. They told me to turn off the ignition and back on immediately and it will start, which it does. Do you have any ideas?—Bob**

**ANSWER:** This is a tough one. My hunch would be a possible cranky fuel pump. This might explain why a second or third starting attempt is fruitful.

When your shop said "nothing shows" on the computer, were they referring just to diagnostic trouble codes or to any additional, abnormal PID readings? A professional grade scan tool will also display PID system information for a multitude of very useful things, such as FRP, for fuel rail pressure, possibly indicating a pump fault; fuel injector pulse width, which is fairly conclusive evidence the engine computer is attempting to operate them; and engine coolant, intake air and transmission fluid temperature. If these aren't all very close to equal after an overnight sit, the oddball may be the culprit. Due to the many safety precautions I can't adequately cover in this space, checking fuel pressure electronically is preferred to connecting a mechanical gauge.

Checking for available ignition spark during a no-start episode would also be a prudent test, along with a close look at additional PIDs. It's great you can encounter the problem so easily and explain it clearly (facilitates accurate diagnosis), yet you have a workaround to be able to use the car until the fault is identified.

**Q: My 2002 Ford Escape won't start and the gear shift won't come out of park. A car forum explained the same problem. The guy ended up replacing Fuse 2.11 a couple of times, and then got it to work. I tried it once, but my fuse didn't look like it was broken. It's a 10 amp fuse in position F2.11. Any ideas?—Karen**

**A:** Yikes! In a follow-up discussion, you indicated both faults occurred at the same time, and by "won't start," you meant the starter/engine does not crank. Also, a loud clicking sound is heard during the cranking attempt. Based on this information, I'd start by cracking the driver's door ajar and observing dome light brightness as a cranking attempt is made. If the lamp dims considerably, this indicates either a discharged or faulty battery or a battery connection fault. Clicking during a cranking attempt is typically caused by the starter solenoid rapidly losing then regaining oomph as the starter pulls down available battery voltage. I think you have a battery-related problem.

Forums scare me. There are certainly some very smart folks out there with useful information to share, but they can be few and far between. If someone says they did "this" and it clearly fixed a problem, I'm all ears. I balance this information with a careful matching of symptoms and inspection of published service information, along with a grain of salt, before buying in to the point of replacing parts or performing a complex procedure.

*Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood(at)earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.*

# Life & Style

# A monthlong celebration of poetry

April is National Poetry Month, a monthlong, national celebration of poetry established by the Academy of American Poets as a way to increase awareness and appreciation of poetry in the United States. To mark the occasion, Tinian English teacher Joseph B. Connolly submitted the following poems for publication:

## *Seven sonnets on mirth: From birth to *dearth*

By JOSEPH B. CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

**THE BIRTH OF MIRTH**

Come eat us, come eat us, cried the cannibals
Komoidia! Comedy! cried the Cretan crowds
Send in the clowns, birds,and some funny animals
Forget for a while those burial shrouds

Done eatin, done eatin, growled greedy guts
Echoing inside the bowels of the earth
Dunedin, Dunedin, laughed the Kiwi klutz
From the North Pole to the South Pole sounds of mirth

Puffing Krakatoan cloves east of Java
Knee deep in Norwegian fjords covered with snow
Out of chute number nine in Casper, Wyoming
Laughter and comedy hot as fresh lava
Jokes and jingles, nutty rhymes began to flow
New parodies of 'Roaming in the Gloaming'

**DOWN TO EARTH MIRTH**

Much have I reveled in the realm of mirth
Many a good chuckle and chortle had
Rolling with laughter around on the ground
As joke follows joker none of them bad

Mouth running fast on this tangent and that
Never dull days without yuckety yuk
Rubbing the belly of Ho-Tei the fat
More silly quack quacks from Dulcie the duck

When hit in the face with thrown cussword pies
Seasons of slapstick took over my life
Wiping the meringue of mirth from my eyes
I took many rounds of ribs from my wife
Teasing me about things she knew I despised
With puns thick enough to cut with a knife

**THE GIRTH OF MIRTH**

Mirth hurled many times around the world
Up the Yangtze where Shanghai's Bund is
Past the United Nations flags all unfurled
To Dublin where Wilde wrote 'De Profundis'

Fat men famous for their rotundity
Jovial, conniving and high fiving
All belly laugh with great profundity
Drinking Two Buck Chuck, jumping and jiving

Shaking like Santa's bowl full of jelly
Happiness dominates their attitude
Rolling over laughing from top to bottom
Dancing with more jiggles in their belly
Leeway given plenty of gratitude
This time around mirth finally gottem

**THE FIRTH OF MIRTH**

No albatross necklace to strangle joy
As ships homeward bound drop heavy anchor
Six months aboard a Gulf oil tanker
Bouncing down the gangplank comes sailor boy
Tough guys on the dock have themselves a laugh
While a gaggle of geese honk directions
To golden eggs a few miles away
Near changes promised before elections

Smiling surfers paddle to a buoy
Life guards crack jokes with those beached on the shore
Mallards wade in muck with mute merriment
Having just flown in from East St. Louis
No one can say say this trip has been a bore
Joking and jerking around, days well spent

**MONKEYS OF MIRTH**

Mocking ourselves and then mocking all fools
Road rage daily in a commuter rush
Plying tactics learned in jungle gym schools
High jinks emotions pour out in a gush

Choice after choice we make without thinking
Like flowers blooming too early in Spring
Growth strong enough so smiles stop sinking
In the swing, delighting doing our own thing

Rocking and rolling, riddling with a goof
Laughing about what might have been, could be
Fools on a hill and fiddlers on a roof
Sure as shootin bout what should always be

Jesters back then and now crowning a jerk
Kings of funny things take our mind off work

**IN THE MOUNTAINS OF MIRTH**

Happy with all these for more mirth I cry
In the high desert a beautiful morn
Taking a real quick cold dip in a stream
Assured the picnic will have some sweet corn
Some fresh cooked fry bread at its table place
Some ladies show up proudly trumpeted
Hiding imperfections with make up base
Their tattooed biceps all barbell pumpeted
Artsy tie dyed T-shirts on our backs
Fat jolly old timers having our fill
Not bothered yet by stomach gas attacks
As freedom of thought enables good will
Happy with all these for more mirth I will stay
Till death comes in these mountains where we play

**THE DEARTH OF MIRTH**

The poetry of mirth is never dead
When rodeo clowns cavort in the sun
Honey bees buzz around a sticky bun
And a be bop boom box beats in your head

Aristophanes flicks frogs off his boot
A chorale of mimes in mute mockery shout
'Zip a dee doo dah' in case there's any doubt
Pirouettes and pratfalls make their point moot

The poetry of mirth hollers out its song
To a melting snowman in a March front yard
As a zephyr wind blows winter blues away
Jonquils and 'Johnny-jump-ups' can do no wrong
Mardi Gras brouhaha parades big tubs of lard
Right past hilarity towards April Fool's Day

**yes, it is "dearth," meaning scarcity or lack.*

## *A haiku in your pocket*

By JOSEPH B. CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

As we come toward the end of April, past William Shakespeare's birthday, my thoughts turn toward some poets readers might find interesting.

In no particular order, check out recent U.S. poet laureates Kay Ryan and Billy Collins. Check out American cowboy poets Gail Steiger and his grandpa Gail Gardner, Baxter Black, Wylie Gustafson, and Don Edwards.

Don't miss American women poets Emily Dickinson (read a biography of her life), Edna St. Vincent Millay, Shirley Parker, Nikki Giovanni, Sister Rosetta Tharpe, and of course Maya Angelou. Irish poets William Butler Yeats, Seamus Heaney, and Gabriel Rosenstock come to mind from over the pond and from the old sod. Spanish poets Lorca, Neruda, Borjes, and Jose Marti will give you a flavor of contemporary Spanish writers. Chinese Tang Dynasty poets Li Po, Tu Fu; Ch'u Yuan (2nd century A.D.), and the late Ming Dynasty poet Ch'en Tzu-lung will reach out and touch you from their ancient perspectives.

For 21st century poets some of my personal favorites are Dr. Seuss, Ai Ling Lee, Spoonie Gee, and Joey Connolly.

Who's the best? Get expressed! It is you baby, all the time! You are what's takin' place!

You're the queen of outer space, you're the king of everything, since time began, you what am!

Write, read, and enjoy some poetry today.

'"Get your motor runnin', get out on the highway, looki'n for adventure, whatever comes your way"—Born to Be Wild.

**HAIKU IN YOUR POCKET?**
for Thursday
"poem in your pocket day"
for sures day

**HAIKU IN YOUR HEAD?**
**POEM IN YOUR POCKET DAY - NOT DEAD**
**HASH TAG FRIENDS INSTEAD**
not sure whether to send an elegy or rune
send a Tweet or some kind of Twitter
it need not be bling or glitter
perhaps publish in the Saipan Tribune
silence all that cell phone clamor
try and get them to read a paper
skip some social media glamor
experience a legit mind shaper
**HAIKU IN YOUR POCKET?**
**NEED NOT SHOCK IT**
**OFF LIKE A ROCKET**
look in some book - save face
join the intelligent human race
let your dreams reach into space
far from negativity
defy all that relativity
grovel with reality
**HAIKU IN YOUR BRAIN?**
**CAN'T REALLY COMPLAIN**
NEED NEVER WANE
can't come up with a rhyme
try one some other time
listen to church bells chime
as the ancient poet asked
for whom the bell tolls?
it tolls for thee, and me
**HAIKU COMING OUT?**
**SIMPLE TWIST AND SHOUT**
**IT'S WHAT LIFE IS ABOUT**
now in the mood for
a little more metaphor
say that's right for sure
how about a simple poem
write of love and happy home
just let your thoughts roam
**HAIKU IN YOUR MIND?**
**THREE LINES TO GET BEHIND**
**STAND THE TESTS OF TIME**
'get up and boogie'
'boogaloo down Broadway'
skip what naysayers say
don't let them have their way
get down on your knees and pray
it is another bright and shining day
hip hip hooray! hip hip hooray!
**HAIKU GETTING THROUGH?**
**YOU NOW KNOW WHAT TO DO**
**WRITE ONE. YOU CAN TOO.**

# People's love for cats is unrequited, study indicates

By KATHY ANTONIOTTI
AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

The agony of unrequited love. It may be what keeps us devoted to the felines in our lives.

A recent study confirms what cat owners have long known. Our cats understand us when we talk to them, they just don't give a fig about what we have to say.

A study by two University of Tokyo researchers, published by *Springer in Animal Cognition* journal, determined cats recognize their owners' voices from those of strangers. Conducted by Atsuko Saito and Kazutaka Shinozuka, the test included 20 domesticated cats from 14 homes that were tested in their own familiar places so the stress of moving them to strange surroundings had no role in the outcome of the tests. With the owners out of the cats' line of vision, researchers played recordings of three strangers calling the cats' names followed by a call from the cat's owner and then by the call of another stranger.

Researchers charted the cats' reactions by measuring a number of responses, including head movements, tail and ear movements, eye dilation and vocalization or whether they moved their paws.

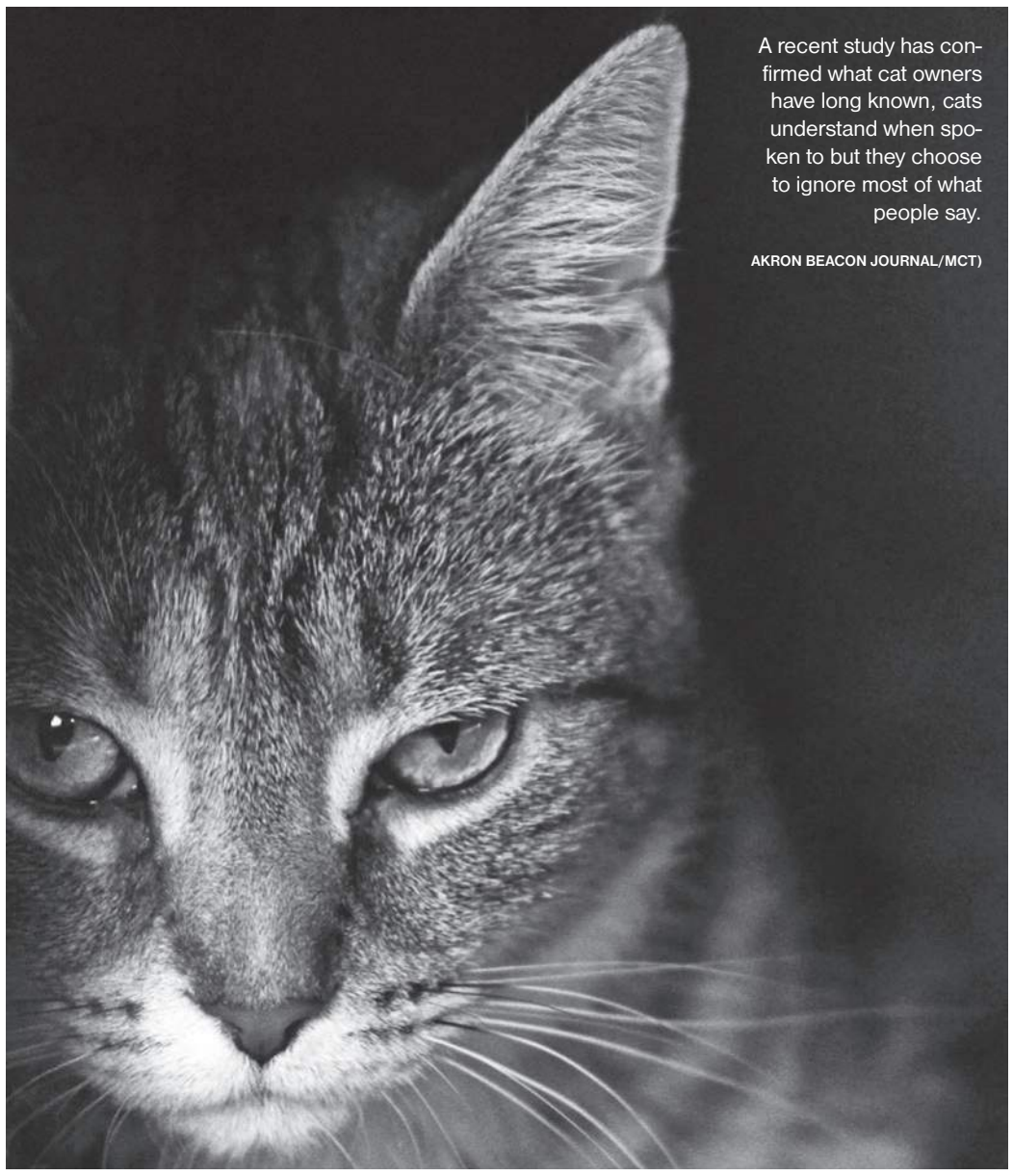
When strangers called their names, the cats had no reaction to the voices whatsoever. When the cats heard their names being called by their owners, they moved their heads and ears to locate where the sound was coming from.

Researchers say it proves that while cats can distinguish their owners' voices, their responses are not communicative.

In other words, he hears you just fine, he just doesn't care what you want from him.

I guess cat owners will just have to accept and appreciate that they get even that much of a response from a species that obviously believes we are on the planet to do its bidding.

The study suggests that the reason cats are so standoffish might be traced back to their early domestication 10,000 years ago. Dogs are bred and have evolved "to follow their owner's orders, but cats have not been," co-author of the study, Saito, told Discovery News. They were not domesticated to work with people as dogs were and consequently feel themselves our equals.



A recent study has confirmed what cat owners have long known, cats understand when spoken to but they choose to ignore most of what people say.

AKRON BEACON JOURNAL/MCT)

Cats originated in the Middle East from wild cats that killed rodents and kept them out of farmers' grain stores.

It appears that as soon as we welcomed them into our homes, cats quickly began to train humans to their wills.

Recent studies have shown dogs and horses have an advanced ability to understand human social cognition. However, the social cognition of the cats that share more than 45 million American homes with us have not been investigated as much as that of dogs.

Unlike dogs that learned how to "read" humans' every movement from body language to hand and eye movement, cats pretty much evolved on their own.

Let's face it. Felines view humans as big, clumsy cats and treat us the same way they treat each other.

Cats live to be served and adored.

Which is not to say they haven't developed a keen ability to manipulate humans. How many cat owners have not experienced the joy of a hungry cat waking us by swatting our faces until they rouse us from sleep at 5am? And we respond as quickly to loud vocalizations of their demands as we do to a crying baby who needs a diaper change.

So, if you are thinking about adopting a cat, don't expect them to swish their tails and come running like the family dog when it's called.

A cat gives its love begrudgingly and it must be well earned. Get used to it.

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*Kathy Antoniotti writes about pets for the Akron Beacon Journal. She is unable to help locate, place or provide medical attention for an individual animal. If you have an idea or question about pets, write her at the Beacon Journal, P.O. Box 640, Akron, OH 44309-0640; call 330-996-3565; or send an email to kantoniotti@thebeaconjournal.com.*

## 4 US TV shows ordered off Chinese websites

**BEIJING** (AP)—Chinese authorities have ordered video streaming websites in the country to stop showing four popular American TV shows, including "The Big Bang Theory" and "The Good Wife," representatives from two sites said Sunday.

The move suggests government attention is intensifying on the online streaming industry, which is freer than state television and China's cinemas to show foreign productions and other content and has stretched the boundaries of what can be seen in the country.

A spokeswoman for a leading online video site, Youku, said it had received notification on Saturday not to show sitcom "The Big Bang Theory," political and legal drama "The Good Wife," crime drama "NCIS" and legal drama "The Practice." Of those, Youku showed only "The Good Wife." The State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television didn't give a reason for its order, said the spokeswoman, who couldn't be named because of company policy.

A senior manager at another site, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, said it received the surprise order last week to "clean their website." The order, which was identical to the one sent to Youku and other companies, also listed a Chinese slapstick miniseries made by another site, Sohu, as having to be removed, said the manager.

Calls to the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television rang unanswered Sunday, and Sohu did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Online streaming sites regularly receive orders to take down Chinese or foreign TV programs and movies, but usually because the regulator considers them to be too salacious or violent or because they infringe copyright laws. Sohu's most popular U.S. shows are "Nikita"—episodes from the first and second seasons have been watched a combined total of 472 million times—and "Masters of Sex," which weren't included in the order.

From time to time the regulator limits American-style reality TV and other light fare on satellite channels, ostensibly to stop "vulgar content." Some observers suspect authorities are concerned they are taking too much audience away from the national broadcaster, which the government sees as a tool to mold public opinion.

China's privately owned video streaming websites started life as YouTube-style sites that depended on users uploading their own clips. But they soon expanded into showing legally licensed domestic and international TV series and movies, which are often free to watch and accompanied by advertising. They also increasingly produce their own low-budget shows and, in some cases, co-produce movies.

## 'Other Woman' curbs 'Captain America' with $24.7M

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—A femme-fueled comedy beat a superhero blockbuster at the box office this weekend.

After holding the top position for three weeks, "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" has been topped by "The Other Woman" for the No. 1 spot.

Fox's revenge comedy, starring Cameron Diaz, Leslie Mann and Kate Upton, debuted with $24.7 million, while Disney-Marvel's "Captain America," led by Chris Evans, grossed $16 million in its fourth weekend, bringing its domestic total to $225 million.

The PG-13 rating of the Nick Cassavetes-directed "The Other Woman"—about three women wronged by a three-timing spouse played by Nikolaj Coster-Waldau of "Game of Thrones"—helped it draw a larger audience, said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst of box-office tracker Rentrak.

"The rating was perfect," he said. "If you are going for the mainstream audience who is looking for something that has a little bit of an edge, but not too much, you can hit that sweet spot and draw a large audience."

Hollywood hasn't yet seen a comedy do especially well at the box office in 2014 since "Ride Along," which was released in January. Wes Anderson's "The Grand Budapest Hotel" exceeded expectations, however, making over $131 million worldwide.

"The Other Woman" scored $12.8 million internationally, bringing its worldwide total to $45.3 million.

"Captain America" has now hit over $645 million globally, surpassing its 2011 original "The First Avenger," which earned $370 million. The sequel is the highest-grossing April release ever.

Sony's faith-based "Heaven Is for Real," starring Greg Kinnear, held the third-place position with $13.8 million after opening in the same slot last weekend behind leaders "Captain America" and Fox's animated "Rio 2," which drifted down to fourth place with $13.7 million. (Notably, Mann, who voices a character in "Rio 2," now has two films in the top five this weekend.)

Relativity Media's action crime drama "Brick Mansions," starring the late Paul Walker, was No. 5 with $9.6 million. The film was one of the last Walker completed before he died in a car accident in November. It's a solid debut for "Brick Mansions" after the film was pushed back from its original release date in February.

Johnny Depp's sci-fi disappointment "Transcendence" dropped from No. 4 to No. 6 in its second weekend, earning $4.1 million. The Warner Bros. film is Depp's third consecutive flop after 2013's Western "The Lone Ranger," in which he played Tonto, and 2012 quirky vampire flick "Dark Shadows."

1. **"The Other Woman,"** $24.7 million ($12.8 million international).
2. **"Captain America: The Winter Soldier,"** $16 million ($16 million international).
3. **"Heaven Is for Real,"** $13.8 million.
4. **"Rio 2,"** 13.7 million ($27.5 international).
5. **"Brick Mansions,"** $9.6 million ($1.6 million international).
6. **"Transcendence,"** $4.1 million ($10.8 million international).
7. **"The Quiet Ones,"** $4 million ($275,000 international).
8. **"Bears,"** $3.6 million ($100,000 international).
9. **"Divergent,"** $3.6 million ($9.7 million international).
10. **"A Haunted House 2,"** $3.3 million ($1 million international).

Debuting in only four locations, A24 Films' "Locke" took the weekend's highest per-screen average with $22,303. Overall, the drama starring Tom Hardy earned $89,210. The film, which sees Hardy spend 85 minutes in a car on the phone while tackling a series of events jeopardizing his carefully patterned existence, is being called one of his best performances. AP National Writer Jocelyn Noveck called Hardy's portrayal of construction manager and family man Ivan Locke "admirably restrained, in a situation when overacting must have been a constant temptation."

Also this month, A24 released the sci-fi film "Under the Skin" featuring Scarlett Johansson. It opened slightly higher with $133,154 domestically, reaching a total of over $1.5 million.

Also opening this weekend was Lionsgate's "The Quiet Ones," starring Jared Harris ("Mad Men") as an Oxford professor who recruits students to conduct an experiment to prove supernatural abilities exist. The horror film's take was a mere $4 million.

Next weekend, Sony-Marvel's "The Amazing Spider-Man 2" kicks off the summer movie season with its domestic debut. The 18 weeks of summer constitutes on average 40 percent of the year's box-office earnings, Dergarabedian said.

# Travolta, Spacey wow crowd at 'Bollywood Oscars'

**TAMPA, Fla.** (AP)—The Indian film industry's top award show sailed into Tampa Saturday with a pirate-themed opening musical number and celebrities ranging from "Slumdog Millionaire" star Anil Kapoor to John Travolta and Kevin Spacey.

Before a crowd of some 20,000, the International Indian Film Academy awards started with the entrance of actors aboard a float built like a pirate ship—a nod to Tampa's love of pirate-themed parties. The show informally known as the "Bollywood Oscars" are being held in the United States for the first time.

The show was recorded and will be broadcast in June. IIFA says some 800 million people worldwide are expected to watch the event.

Co-hosts Shahid Kapoor and Farhan Akhtar, dressed in swashbuckling outfits, demanded the key to Tampa from Mayor Bob Buckhorn, who was sitting in the front row at the city's NFL stadium.

"I will give you this key if and only if you entertain us," said Mayor Buckhorn, after which Kapoor and Akhtar climbed onstage and proceeded to have a mock sword fight.

But it was Travolta that made the crowd come to life. Indian star Priyanka Chopra pulled him onstage and Travolta did some signature moves from his 1994 blockbuster film "Pulp Fiction."

Later, actor Hrithik Roshan presented Travolta with an award for Outstanding Achievement in International Cinema, declaring the two-time Golden Globe winner "the coolest of them all."

AP

Indian film star Deepika Padukone walks the green carpet as she arrives for the 15th annual International Indian Film Awards on Saturday, April 26, 2014, in Tampa, Fla.

"I'm honored. I'm humbled," Travolta said.

Hollywood actor and two-time Academy Award winner Kevin Spacey also wowed the crowd. He presented actress Deepika Padukone with the award for Entertainer of the Year.

Padukone and the co-hosts persuaded Spacey to don a Lungi—a sarong—and dance to a wildly popular song called the "Lungi Dance", which was written for the movie "Chennai Express."

Before the show started, Travolta, Spacey and dozens of Indian film stars walked slowly past hordes of international media outside the stadium. Unlike the Academy Awards, IIFA uses a green carpet instead of a red one.

Like a Bollywood movie, the awards show was long, colorful and filled with spectacular song-and-dance numbers. The show started about an hour and a half late, and ended about 3 a.m. EDT.

The opening musical sequence combined elements of pirates, underwater creatures and football cheerleaders. Other songs were medleys of movie hits, with Cirque du Soleil-type acrobatics.

Some of India's hottest movie stars received awards during the ceremony. While many were similar to Oscar-style accolades (best actor, best picture), others took a different twist (best villain, best performance in a comic role).

Bhaag Milkha Bhaag, a film about the life of Indian track and field Olympian Milkha Singh, was the big winner of the night. The 84-year-old Singh was in the audience Saturday.

The movie won the best story award, best director and best picture. It also won nine technical awards during a separate ceremony in Tampa on Friday.

Farhan Akhtar (the co-host) won best male lead actor for his starring role in Bhaag Milkha Bhaag, and Deepika Padukone won best female lead actor for her role in Chennai Express.

# Photo-happy grandparents need to change their view

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

**DEAR ABBY**: My husband and I have been married for three years and have two beautiful children. Shortly before our first child was born, my in-laws bought a new camera. They bring it along to every visit and constantly take pictures of all of us. Neither my husband nor I likes having our pictures taken. My in-laws have thousands of pictures of all of us already.

The biggest problem is that they don't have a relationship with their grandchildren because of this. They complain that the kids "don't like them." They feel they should therefore visit more often, but in reality, these visits consist of nonstop photo-snapping, and no quality time is spent with either of the children. How do I make this stop without causing problems?

OUT OF FOCUS IN NEW YORK

**DEAR OUT OF FOCUS: A diplomatic approach would be to suggest to your in-laws that they "shoot" only for a limited time when they visit—no longer than the first 10 minutes. Explain that you realize the kids are growing and changing quickly, and you understand their desire to record all of it, but the children need a deeper kind of interaction with their grandparents in order to form a positive bond with them. Then suggest some ways they can relate to the little ones after the camera is put away.**

**If they balk, tell them the reason their grandchildren don't seem to like them is that children need face-to-face and eye contact, and the camera has prevented it from happening. If they're smart, they'll listen.**

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: I'm a 43-year-old woman who has been in a relationship with a man I dated many years ago, "Charles." When we reconnected three years ago, I had a dog, "Frosty." One year into the relationship, Charles asked me to get rid of Frosty because he thinks dogs are unsanitary. I loved Frosty and kept him, but it caused all kinds of problems with my boyfriend.

When Charles and I moved in together three months ago, he insisted I get rid of Frosty and I caved. I miss my little friend so much it hurts. Memories of him are everywhere. I am able to get him back, but is it crazy that I would jeopardize my relationship because I want to keep my dog?

IN THE DOGHOUSE

**DEAR IN THE DOGHOUSE: I don't think it's crazy, and I'm sure my animal-loving readers—who number in the millions—would agree with me. People bond with their pets to such an extent that in the event of a natural disaster, some of them refuse to be separated from their companions.**

**That Charles would insist you get rid of Frosty shows extreme insensitivity for your feelings, in addition to disregard for your beloved pet in whom you had a significant emotional investment. Could Charles be jealous of the affection you have shown Frosty? Not knowing him, I can't guess. But if you are forced to choose between the two of them, you should seriously consider choosing the dog.**

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

# Paroled 'Sopranos' actor discusses drug addiction

**NEW YORK** (AP)—After spending eight years in prison, former "Sopranos" actor Lillo Brancato Jr. says he's trying to help young people avoid making similar, drug-fueled mistakes.

"Here I am, I get the opportunity, I get the shot and then squander it, and do what I did, and get addicted to drugs and just make horrible decisions," the 37-year-old Brancato said in an interview broadcast Sunday on WNYM-AM.

He was paroled in December after serving time for his role in a 2005 Bronx break-in that left an off-duty police officer dead.

Brancato, who got his break in the 1993 film "A Bronx Tale" with Robert De Niro, said he's reaching out to young people to discuss the addiction he was unable to control. His last drug high was in prison in 2006, he said.

According to prosecutors, the actor and a Genovese crime family associate, Steven Armento, were drinking at a Bronx strip club before they tried to break into a nearby basement apartment and steal Valium.

The sound of shattering glass awoke off-duty Officer Daniel Enchautegui, who lived in the neighborhood and came to the rescue.

# 'Citizen Kane' script sold at Orson Welles auction

This undated file photo provided by Heritage Auctions shows Orson Welles' personal copy of a souvenir program from his classic 1941 film, "Citizen Kane," which was among the legendary actor, director and scriptwriter's items consigned by his daughter, Beatrice Welles for sale by Heritage Auctions in New York City on Saturday, April 26, 2014. AP

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Scripts for "Citizen Kane," Orson Welles' camera and a cigar ashtray were among the late director's belongings sold at a New York auction.

Sixty-seven lots fetched $180,000 at Heritage Auctions on Saturday.

Margaret Barrett, Heritage's director of entertainment-linked auctions, called the items "a piece of cinema royalty."

Two dozen pages of scripts for the 1941 masterpiece "Citizen Kane" went for $15,000, far surpassing the $2,000 presale estimate.

Welles' old Bell & Howell movie camera used to record a bullfight in Spain sold for $37,500, against a $2,000 estimate.

And a silver-plated cigar ashtray Ernest Hemingway gave Welles fetched $5,000. That's six times the expected price.

Also on the block were memorabilia the director's daughter, Beatrice Welles, kept for decades in Sedona, Ariz.

# Hunt on to find Cervantes—Spain's great writer

**MADRID** (AP)—Miguel de Cervantes, Spain's greatest writer, was a soldier of little fortune. He died broke in Madrid, his body riddled with bullets. His burial place was a tiny convent church no larger than the entrance hall of an average house.

No more was heard of the 16th century author until the rediscovery of a novel featuring an eccentric character called Don Quixote rescued him from oblivion.

By then, nobody could remember where his grave was. Four centuries later, Spain intends to do the great man justice.

A team that will search for Cervantes's remains begins excavations Monday and final conclusions—should the search succeed—will be known by the year's end. The estimated cost of the operation is 100,000 euros ($138,000).

A three-phase search will take place at the Convent of the Barefoot Trinitarians in Madrid's historic Barrio de las Letras—or Literary Quarter.

When Cervantes moved to Spain's capital in 1606 he had already published the novel that was to change Spanish literature: "The Adventures of the Ingenious Nobleman Don Quixote of La Mancha."

Although his book enjoyed some success, it did not make him famous—and the author was better known in Spain as an ill-fated soldier.

Cervantes had been wounded in battle and spent years captive in Algiers. He had been seized by Turkish pirates who boarded the ship on which he was returning to Spain after fighting in a war against the Ottoman Empire.

The Trinitarian order negotiated his release and helped pay a ransom that ruined Cervantes' family.

Cervantes was compelled to live as an errand-runner for the convent to give thanks for his deliverance.

He lived in a neighborhood of narrow streets, small houses and taverns full of artists and hustlers, where wine flowed and tapas was served.

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

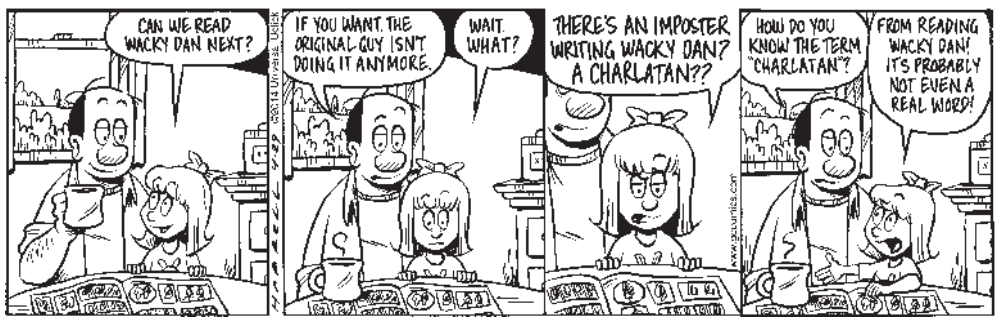
ALL RIGHT! I FOUND YOU!
FOUND?? WAY, WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I'VE BEEN IN BED READING ALL EVENING WITH HOBBES.
DON'T GIVE ME THAT! YOU JUST NOW SNEAKED INSIDE, TOOK OFF YOUR SILLY COSTUME, AND JUMPED IN BED! I KNOW WHAT YOU DID! WELL YOU'RE GONNA GET IT NOW, BUCKO!
OH YEAH? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO ME, HUH? YOU CAN'T SEND ME TO BED WHEN I'M ALREADY IN BED! SORRY TO SPOIL YOUR FUN, YOU EEL!
OK, DOWNSTAIRS! MARCH!
HEY, YOU CAN'T TAKE ME OUT OF BED! I NEED MY SLEEP! HEY! HEY!

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


CAN WE READ WACKY DAN NEXT?
IF YOU WANT. THE ORIGINAL GUY ISN'T DOING IT ANYMORE.
WAIT. WHAT?
THERE'S AN IMPOSTER WRITING WACKY DAN? A CHARLATAN??
HOW DO YOU KNOW THE TERM "CHARLATAN"?
FROM READING WACKY DAN! IT'S PROBABLY NOT EVEN A REAL WORD!

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

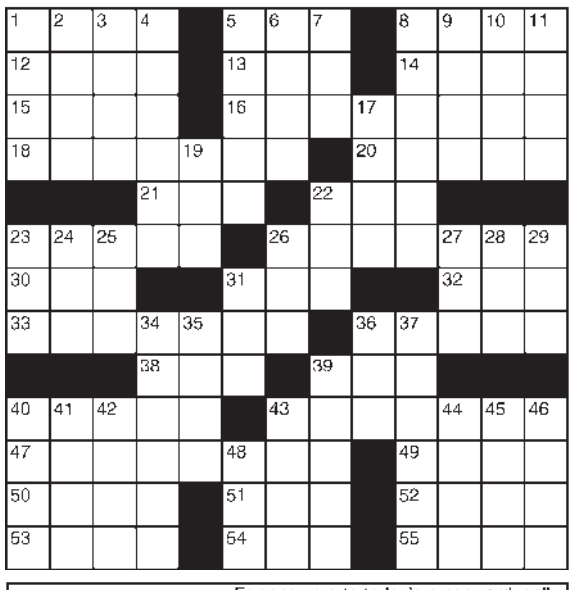
**ACROSS**
1 Arp's style
5 "Despicable Me" character
8 Gambling game
12 Caspian feeder
13 Pirates' potation
14 Press
15 Use the USPS
16 Green liqueur
18 Free from guilt
20 Diamond corners
21 Method
22 Have a bug
23 Social stratum
26 "— makes the heart grow fonder"
30 Spacecraft compartment
31 Conk out
32 Neighbor of Arg.
33 Leave secretly
36 Choir's rendition
38 "— Little Teapot"
39 Expert
40 Memorize
43 Don't indulge
47 Ordinate counterpart
49 Loosen
50 Irritate
51 Mel of baseball
52 Harbor structure
53 Initial stake
54 Chart format
55 Bridge coup

**DOWN**
1 Russian legislature
2 Bedouin
3 Speaker's place
4 Lets
5 Turkey topping
6 Hayseed
7 Sounds of hesitation
8 Last part
9 — and crafts
10 Architect Mies van der —
11 Individuals
17 Egyptian bird
19 Part of UNLV
22 Honest prez
23 Bookkeeper (Abbr.)
24 Sort of tennis shot
25 Billboards
26 Help
27 Cagers' org.
28 Army rank (Abbr.)
29 Freddy's street
31 Genetic evidence
34 Vicious figure?
35 Name of a hotel
36 Macs' alternatives
37 Arrangements
39 Diminish
40 Zhivago's love
41 Black, in verse
42 — were (so to speak)
43 Italian wine region
44 Blue dye source
45 Concept
46 Standard
48 Bribe

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | O | L | A | ■ | F | A | T | ■ | Y | E | W | S |
| O | R | A | L | ■ | E | L | I | ■ | E | X | I | T |
| D | I | V | A | ■ | M | A | L | A | G | A | S | Y |
| A | G | A | S | S | I | ■ | T | R | O | M | P | E |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | K | O | N | G | ■ | C | D | I | ■ | ■ |
| M | A | L | A | D | I | E | S | ■ | S | N | A | P |
| A | B | A | ■ | A | S | T | E | R | ■ | E | G | O |
| J | U | N | K | ■ | M | A | L | A | P | R | O | P |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | C | A | T | ■ | T | F | A | I | ■ | ■ |
| O | P | E | R | A | S | ■ | C | E | R | E | A | L |
| M | A | L | A | P | E | R | T | ■ | A | R | G | O |
| A | L | O | T | ■ | M | O | E | ■ | T | I | E | S |
| R | O | T | E | ■ | I | N | D | ■ | E | N | D | S |

Yesterday's answer 4-29



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Andre Agassi, 44; Uma Thurman, 44; Michelle Pfeiffer, 56; Jerry Seinfeld, 60

**Happy Birthday**: Doing your own thing is fine, but make sure you do the necessary preparation to ensure your success. Moving too quickly or taking on too much will be your demise. Baby steps that are well thought out and strategically executed will allow you greater freedom to explore and expand once you have a working prototype and a captive audience. Your numbers are 2, 9, 14, 25, 31, 37, 48.

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Don't let what others tell you twist your thoughts or change your course of action regarding your career objectives or geographical location. A change in the way you deal with someone must not be due to one or both of you overreacting. ✪✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Emotions will flare up, helping you express your true feelings and allowing you to come to grips with bothersome personal matters. Set the record straight in order to build a better relationship with those you confront. ✪✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Keep your personal matters out of the workplace. Conflicts will develop if you are too open and trusting. Add a unique touch to your work and do your best to get along with everyone you deal with. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): Help a cause or someone in need, but don't make promises that will lead to a problem in your personal or professional life. A disagreement with someone important to you will not be easy to reverse. Diplomacy is required. ✪✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You will feel uncertain about your future if you let your emotions take over. Make changes that will help bring your confidence and your qualifications to a higher level. What you learn now will encourage you to apply for better positions. ✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Speak up, take note and do your best to make improvements. Socializing and taking part in events and activities that will help you grow personally and professionally will bring good results. Making plans with someone special will lead to greater happiness. ✪✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Do whatever it takes to stabilize your home and your personal financial situation. Size down or add value to your surroundings. Invest in you and your ability to bring in more money. Don't overreact; do something that will improve your world. ✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): A problem you face will not go away unless you address it head-on. Speak up and make suggestions that will improve your relationships with others, as well as make your surroundings more convenient. Stop complaining and do what needs to be done. ✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll face someone using questionable tactics to get you to do things differently. It's OK to make changes, but only if you do so for the right reason. Don't do anything that might cause problems with an authority figure or your personal health. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You've got all the right moves, so don't take detours that might lead you astray. Say what's on your mind and reveal your next move. Put time aside for romance and you will improve your love life. ✪✪✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't let what others say get you down. Added responsibilities may be dumped in your lap, but if you handle them efficiently, you will still have time to do your own thing. You will learn something from a romantic experience you encounter. ✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Believe in what you are doing and you will get ahead. Your contributions to an organization that has something to offer in return will pay off. Contracts, settlements and financial and legal matters can be resolved in your favor. ✪✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are strong-willed, goal-oriented and quick to take action.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | | | 6 | | 5 | | 3 | |
| | | | 3 | | | 1 | | 2 |
| | | | | | 1 | | 4 | |
| 6 | 8 | | | | 9 | 4 | | 7 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | 1 | 8 | | | | 6 | 3 |
| | 4 | | 9 | | | | | |
| 7 | | 5 | | | 6 | | | |
| | 3 | | 1 | | 7 | | | 9 |

Difficulty Level ★★ 4/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 9 |
| 4 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 3 |
| 3 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| 1 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 6 |
| 6 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 7 |
| 5 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 1 |
| 7 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 4 |
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 8 |

Difficulty Level ★ 4/22

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**FOREIGNER WORLD TOUR 2014** Solution: 12 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | S | D | S | D | R | A | O | B | Y | E | K | O | U | L |
| Y | G | U | I | T | A | R | I | S | T | B | C | X | C | O |
| R | N | H | E | A | D | G | A | M | E | S | I | O | H | V |
| I | O | R | E | H | S | W | O | H | S | N | M | B | R | E |
| C | S | T | A | G | E | D | P | E | L | E | L | E | I | V |
| S | R | R | E | E | T | U | L | F | R | S | E | K | S | I |
| E | J | E | F | F | O | E | V | O | Ⓔ | N | A | U | I | L |
| N | G | C | W | R | M | K | C | S | Ⓒ | A | H | J | G | B |
| O | I | N | G | I | S | K | E | S | Ⓘ | H | C | N | I | A |
| H | M | O | T | M | W | I | P | L | L | L | I | W | U | N |
| P | B | C | U | I | T | I | A | O | L | S | M | U | R | D |
| O | E | B | T | H | L | S | S | A | B | Y | N | F | G | A |
| X | L | H | G | S | C | I | S | S | A | L | C | A | E | T |
| A | U | I | O | B | L | U | E | S | T | E | I | N | N | E |
| S | E | N | O | J | C | I | S | U | M | P | A | S | T | S |

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Albums, Band, Bass, Bluestein, Chris, Classic, Cold, Come Rock With Us, Concert, Crew, Dates, Drums, Eighties, Fans, Flute, Gimbel, Group, Guitarist, Hansen, Head Games, Hero, Ice, Jeff, Jones, Juke Box, Kelly, Keyboards, Live, Love, Lyrics, Michael, Mick, Music, Passes, Past, Pilson, Saxophones, Shows, Sing, Songs, Stage, Timeless, Urgent, Will

**Yesterday's Answer: Andy Hardy**

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 27, 31, 35, 36, 37 or 38** call 1-800-642-6480. Order online at wonderword.universaluclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## EMPLOYMENT

Photographer–2yrs. experience. P.O. Box 506448 or email at dipoto@naver.com. Dipoto Co.

**Wanted** – Commercial cleaner for diving business on Rota. Five years experience, high school diploma, 2 letters of recommendation from former employers and police clearance required. Minimum salary. Call 532-3423 for interview.

**Global Investment Group, LLC dba New Tokyo Sakura Club**
is now hiring

(1) **Assistant Manager**
Atleast 2 to 4 years of work experience in hospitality industry.

(1) **Waitress**

All applicants must be fluent in Japanese and Chinese language.

**Call 287-8098 and ask for Jerry**

**J.C. Tenorio Enterprises Inc.**
is currently seeking for
**(2) SALES CLERK**
Interested applicants must e-mail a resume to hrd3@joeten.com
Closing date: May 2, 2014

**S.Y.N. LLC dba Jiang Li Xiang**
is now hiring

(1) **Assistant Manager**
Atleast 2 to 4 years of work experience in hospitality industry.

(1) **Waitress**

All applicants must be fluent in Japanese and Chinese language.

**Call 285-9885 and ask for Jerry**

**Job Vacancy Announcement**

**(1) Sales Associates**
**(1) Assistant Store Manager**

Minimum of 3 years experience in selling. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service, preferably knows how to speak and read Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours. Rate $5.55/hr.

Applicants should mail their resume to PMB 1118 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950 or email saipanbest07@gmail.com. American Saipan Best Corporation dba Saipan Best Shopping Market.

**Salty Saipan Corporation**
**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**INTERIOR DESIGNER (Full Time)**
Must have a B.A. degree in Fine Arts or Interior Design. Strong team building, organization, communication skills are essential. With 8 years or more experience in preparing comprehensive interior design packages including architectural detailing and knowledge of construction documentation. AutoCAD experience is essential. Individual must possess excellent presentation skills and have the ability to manage multiple projects. Conceptual sketching ability desired LEED AP accredited is a plus. Awareness and experience in workplace strategies and solutions a plus. Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator program knowledge. Fluent in Korean and English.

Interested Applicants may send resume to annesong71@gmail.com
No staffing agencies. No phone calls please.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, | : | CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0069 |
| -v- | : | |
| ROY ROGER KAIPAT and CASILDA I. KAIPAT, Defendants. | : | |

**NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 14, 2014, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot no. 011 G 1322, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey's Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 24, dated December 9, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 96-2567, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, May 30, 2014, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

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# Warriors top Clippers 118-97, even series 2-2

**OAKLAND, Calif.** (AP)—The Los Angeles Clippers made a silent protest against owner Donald Sterling before Game 4 of their Western Conference playoff series against Golden State. The Warriors made a different kind of statement during the game.

And just like that, a series pulled into a race-related scandal took another twist.

Stephen Curry made a career playoff-high seven 3-pointers and scored 33 points, leading the Warriors past the Clippers 118-97 on Sunday to even their first-round series at two games apiece.

"We wanted to come out and focus on all the work we've put in over the summer, throughout the course of the season to get ready for this moment in the playoffs and just have fun and enjoy it—not let one person ruin it for everybody," Curry said.

The game almost became an afterthought—until tipoff anyway—after an audio recording was posted Saturday online by TMZ purportedly of Sterling making comments urging a woman to not bring black people to his team's games. The alleged comments, which are under investigation by the NBA, have set off reactions of anger and calls for action through the league.

Clippers players made a silent protest against Sterling by shedding their warm-up jerseys and going through the pregame routine with their red shirts on inside out. They also wore black bands on their wrists or arms and black socks in a show of solidarity.

Clippers coach Doc Rivers said he knew what his players had planned but didn't voice his opinion. He said he wasn't thrilled about the demonstration, though he didn't elaborate why.

Curry and company did a better job focusing from the start.

The All-Star guard made his first five 3s to give Golden State a 20-point lead in the first quarter that held up most of the way. Curry shot 10 for 20 from the floor, including 7 of 14 from beyond the arc, and had seven assists and seven rebounds to help the Warriors snap a two-game losing skid.

"I just thought they were the tougher team and it wasn't even close. Should have been a first round knockout," Rivers said.

Golden State outshot Los Angeles 55.4 to 42.9 percent. The Clippers had 19 turnovers, while the Warriors had a series-low 15 turnovers.

Both coaches and players agreed that Sterling's purported comments affected their preparation, and neither side believed it was a determining factor in the outcome.

"I think both teams were somewhat bothered by what has taken place the last 24 hours," Warriors coach Mark Jackson said. "But my guys just played with great energy, great effort."

Rivers blamed himself for not getting his players ready.

"I'm not going to deny that we had other stuff," he said. "I just believe when the game starts, the game starts and nobody cares anymore. Golden State surely didn't care."

Game 5 is Tuesday night in Los Angeles.

Andre Iguodala added 22 points and nine assists, and David Lee, Klay Thompson and Harrison Barnes each scored 15 as the Warriors went to a smaller lineup to regain their shooting touch in front of a roaring, gold-shirt wearing sellout crowd of 19,596 that stood after every swish.

"It just all came together," said Iguodala, who also had nine assists and four rebounds.

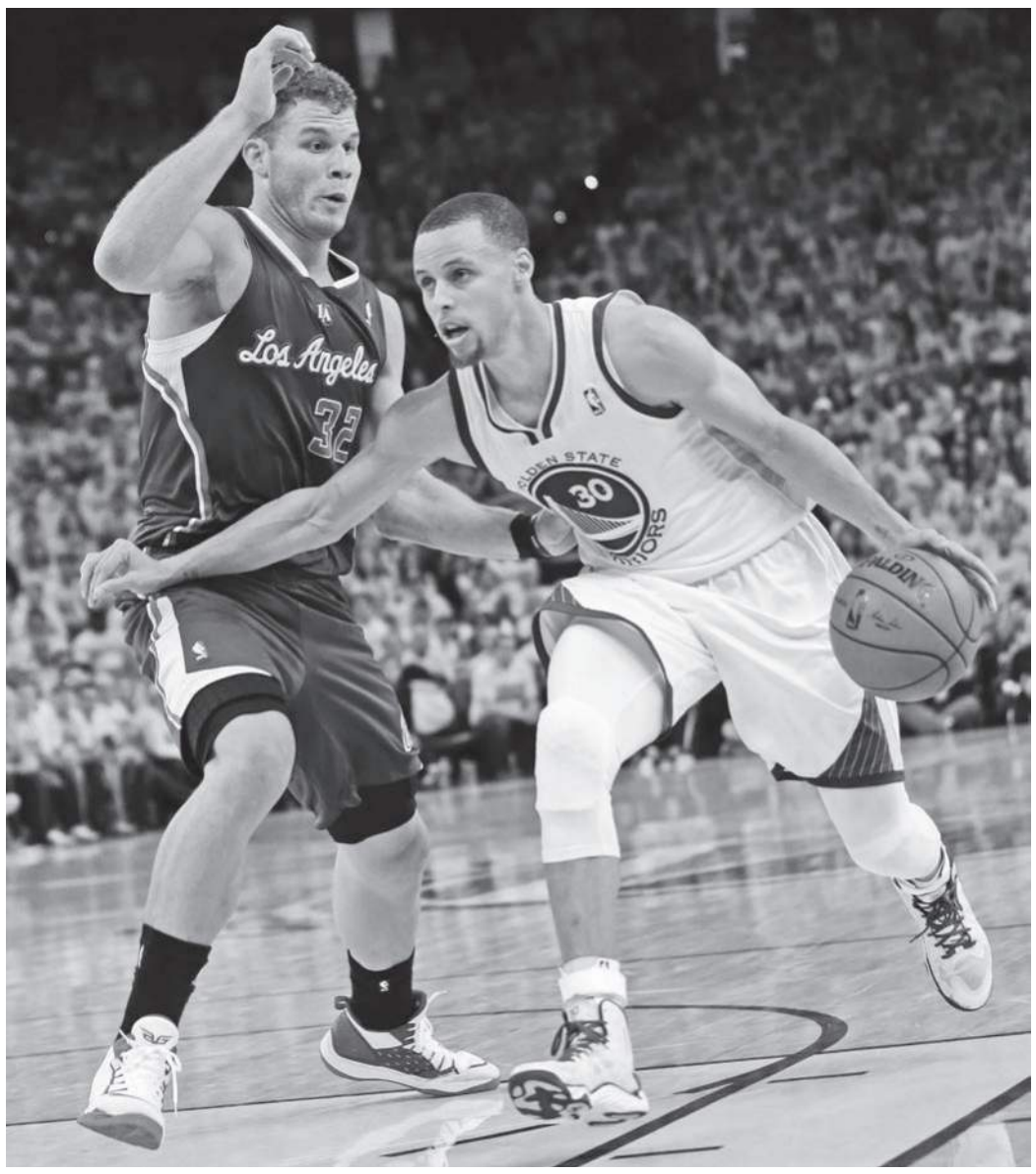
Jamal Crawford scored 26 points, and Blake Griffin had 21 points and six rebounds for a Clippers team wrapped up in the most talked-about topic in sports.

"Maybe our focus wasn't in the right place would be the easiest way to say it," Clippers guard J.J. Redick said.

New NBA Commissioner Adam Silver attended the game and met privately with former All-Star guard and current Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, who is advising the players union on the Sterling situation. Johnson even held a news conference during halftime that spilled well into the third quarter.

Silver has said he hopes for a quick resolution after the league investigates, and that Sterling has already agreed not to attend Game 5. Johnson said the players trust Silver and are hoping for a quick resolution—and the harshest penalty possible if the audio recording is authenticated.

Once the ball was thrown up and the crowd roared, the Warriors quickly put the Clippers in a hole they could never recover from.



AP

Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry (30) dribbles next to Los Angeles Clippers' Blake Griffin during the second half in Game 4 of an opening-round NBA basketball playoff series on Sunday, April 27, 2014, in Oakland, Calif.

Curry's five 3-pointers in the first quarter tied a franchise-playoff record for a quarter, matching a mark he and Thompson set last year. Golden State led by 20 in the first quarter, 23 in the second quarter and 66-48 at the half.

### Trail Blazers 123, Rockets 120, PT

In Portland, Oregon, LaMarcus Aldridge had 29 points and 10 rebounds as Portland took a 3-1 advantage in the series.

Nicolas Batum added 25 points in the first win for the home team in the series, which moves to Houston for Game 5 on Wednesday. It was the third overtime game of the series.

The Blazers haven't advanced out of the first round since the postseason in 2000

James Harden had 28 points and Dwight Howard added 25 points and 14 rebounds for the Rockets.

Portland trailed by as many as 11 points, but rallied in the fourth quarter. Mo Williams' 3-pointer put the Blazers in front 105-104 with 18.9 seconds left. Dorell Wright missed the first of two free throws making it 106-104 with 8.3 seconds to go.

Howard dunked off a feed from Harden with 3.6 seconds left to tie it again and Williams missed a 3 at the buzzer to send the game into overtime at 106-106.

### Wizards 98, Bulls 89

In Washington, Trevor Ariza had a career playoff-high 30 points as Washington scored the first 14 points of the game and barely looked back in taking a 3-1 lead in the Eastern Conference series.

John Wall added 15 points and 10 assists for the Wizards, who forced 16 turnovers and committed only six. Washington played without forward Nene, who was suspended for grabbing Jimmy Butler by the head in Game 3.

The Wizards are looking to win a playoff series for only the third time since the 1970s. They can finish off the Bulls in Game 5 on Tuesday in Chicago.

Taj Gibson scored a career-high 32 points on 13 for 16 shooting for Chicago, but his teammates combined to go 22 for 62 from the field.

### Raptors 87, Nets 79

In New York, DeMar DeRozan scored 24 points and Kyle Lowry added 22 as Toronto evened the first-round series at two games apiece.

Amir Johnson had 17 points for the Raptors, who started fast, gave up all of a 17-point lead, then shut the Nets down over the final 5 minutes to snap a 13-game road losing streak in the playoffs that went back 13 years.

Game 5 is Wednesday night in Toronto, with the series now guaranteed a return to Brooklyn on Friday for Game 6.

Paul Pierce scored 22 points for the Nets, who were 3 for 17 in the fourth quarter and didn't have a field goal after Pierce's basket with 6:13 left gave them a 77-73 lead.

## *All eyes on Silver, as Sterling fallout continues*

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

The Los Angeles Clippers have Monday off.

Adam Silver likely won't get that same luxury.

Facing the first real crisis of his short tenure as NBA commissioner, Silver is under pressure to swiftly bring some sort of resolution to the scandal surrounding Clippers owner Donald Sterling and the racially charged comments he allegedly made in a recorded conversation, portions of which were released over the weekend by TMZ and Deadspin.

The matter will not go away anytime soon, but the players' association is hoping Silver rules before the Clippers play host to Golden State in a critical Game 5 of their knotted-up Western Conference first-round series on Tuesday night. That means plenty of eyeballs will remain on the commissioner's office Monday, waiting to see if any word is coming.

"This situation is a massive distraction for the league right now," said Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, the former NBA All-Star who is serving as an adviser to the National Basketball Players Association while the Sterling matter plays out. "It must be addressed immediately."

Silver's first priority is verifying Sterling's voice is on the recording. From there, Silver's next move remains unclear. He works for the owners—and so far that group seems to have no sympathy for Sterling's latest controversy.

Among those who have spoken out publicly to condemn the alleged Sterling remarks: Washington's Ted Leonsis, Miami's Micky Arison and perhaps most notably, Charlotte's Michael Jordan, who won six NBA titles as a player.

"I'm obviously disgusted that a fellow team owner could hold such sickening and offensive views," Jordan said in a statement released Sunday. "I'm confident that Adam Silver will make a full investigation and take appropriate action quickly."

Silver started as commissioner Feb. 1, replacing the retired David Stern. Silver met with Kevin Johnson on Sunday and heard five things that the players' union wants from the commissioner, that list includes:

■ Sterling doesn't attend any NBA games for the rest of the playoffs because of the "enormous distraction."

■ A full account of past allegations of discrimination by Sterling and why the league never sanctioned him.

■ An explanation of the range of penalties the league could bring against Sterling.

■ Assurance the NBA and the union will be partners in the investigation.

■ A decisive ruling.

"He's got to come down hard," Hall of Fame player Magic Johnson, who was referenced on the audio recording, said Sunday on ABC.

The NBA constitution is not public, though it's understood the commissioner's powers are broad when it comes to dealing with matters deemed "prejudicial or detrimental to the best interests of basketball." A fine, a suspension, a demand for sensitivity training, all those and more are surely at Silver's disposal.

Meanwhile, more audio may be coming. An employee in the office of attorney Mac E. Nehoray, who represents the woman allegedly on the tape, said the full recording lasts about an hour. The clips released by TMZ and Deadspin are significantly shorter than that.

The attorney's office also insists that the recording is legitimate and that Sterling is the man on the tape.

Also on Sunday, the NAACP announced on Twitter that "(hash)DonaldSterling will not be receiving a lifetime achievement award from the LA Branch of the NAACP." Sterling had been slated to receive the honor on May 15 as part of the 100th anniversary celebration of the group's Los Angeles chapter.

Some players feel for the magnitude of the task Silver is facing.

"What, he's been three months on the job? And he has to deal with an issue like this," Washington's Garrett Temple said of Silver. "It's unfair to him. ... It's going to be a difficult situation for him to take care of, and he's probably going to act swiftly as he said. And he needs to do so. It's a very tough issue. A lot of different sides. But it's more than basketball."

Sterling has been the subject of many past controversies, but this, particularly at playoff time and with his own team a potential title contender, has perhaps generated more outcry than the others combined. Even President Barack Obama addressed the issue Sunday at a news conference in Malaysia.

The next move will be made by Silver.

"This is a defining moment for the league," Kevin Johnson said. "It's a defining moment for the commissioner."

# Freeman singles in 10th, Braves edge Reds, 1-0

AP

Atlanta Braves' Freddie Freeman, right, celebrates with teammate Chris Johnson after Freeman hit a single to score the game-winning run in the 10th inning of a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds, Sunday, April 27, 2014, in Atlanta.

**ATLANTA** (AP)—Freddie Freeman's single to the center-field wall scored Jason Heyward from second base with two outs in the 10th inning Sunday, lifting the Atlanta Braves to a 1-0 win over the Cincinnati Reds.

Cincinnati's Johnny Cueto and Atlanta's Julio Teheran each allowed only three hits in eight scoreless innings. Cueto struck out 11.

With two outs in the 10th, Heyward singled off J.J. Hoover (1-3) and B.J. Upton followed with a grounder off the pitcher's glove for an infield hit.

Left-hander Manny Parra was summoned, and Freeman hit a drive that bounced on the warning track beyond center fielder Billy Hamilton's reach.

Ian Thomas (1-0) got one out for the win.

Reds manager Bryan Price and pitcher Homer Bailey — who was on the bench — were ejected in the first inning after a replay ruling went against them.

## Cubs 4, Brewers 0

In Milwaukee, Jason Hammel allowed just three hits over seven innings and Starlin Castro homered twice as the Chicago Cubs blanked the Milwaukee Brewers.

Hammel (4-1) struck out a season-high seven. Wily Peralta (3-1) had won three straight decisions.

Brewers stars Ryan Braun and Jean Segura both missed the game with injuries.

Braun out sat with a slight chest muscle strain and might be out three to five days. Segura had a partially closed right eye and bruised right cheek after being accidentally hit by Braun's practice swing Saturday. Segura said he hoped to return during a seven-game road trip to St. Louis and Cincinnati.

## Phillies 2, Diamondbacks 0

In Phoenix, A.J. Burnett pitched eight sharp innings for his first win of the season as the Philadelphia Phillies ended a 10-game road trip with a victory over Arizona.

Burnett (1-1) gave up five hits, struck out eight and walked none in his sixth start. Jonathan Papelbon pitched the ninth for his eighth save and second in as many games.

Chase Utley hit an RBI single in the first, then doubled and scored in the sixth while raising his batting average to .360. The Phillies took two of three from Arizona and went 6-4 on their trip.

Brandon McCarthy (0-5) struck out a career-high 12 in seven innings.

## Mets 4, Marlins 0

In New York, Dillon Gee pitched three-hit ball over eight innings, and Chris Young hit a two-run homer as the New York Mets beat Miami.

Gee (2-1) struck out six, walked four and threw 110 pitches—his high since May 30, 2012, against Philadelphia. That was six weeks before season-ending surgery to repair a damaged artery in his right shoulder.

Carlos Torres pitched a perfect ninth to finish the three-hitter.

Tom Koehler (2-2), who was born in Bronx and grew up in New Rochelle, allowed four runs in five innings.

## Cardinals 7, Pirates 0

In St. Louis, Adam Wainwright became the majors' first five-game winner and Jhonny Peralta ended the St. Louis Cardinals' 366 at-bat homerless drought with a pair of long balls in a victory over Pittsburgh.

Peralta drove in four runs. The Cardinals totaled five runs in their previous four games.

Wainwright (5-1) allowed three hits in eight innings and hasn't allowed a run in 25 consecutive innings.

Edinson Volquez (1-2) gave up six runs in 5 2-3 innings as Pittsburgh lost for the fifth time in six games. His day unraveled after the Pirates' appeal of a potential double-play ball was denied.

## Rockies 6, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Josh Rutledge hit a three-run homer and Jorge De La Rosa pitched seven strong innings, leading the Colorado Rockies over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Rockies won their fourth straight series after beating San Diego, Philadelphia and San Francisco.

De La Rosa (2-3) allowed a run and four hits. The left-hander has beaten the Dodgers in three straight starts after going 0-8 with a 7.32 ERA in his 10 previous career starts against them.

Hyun-Jin Ryu (3-2) gave up six runs and nine hits in five-plus innings. He is 0-2 with a 9.69 ERA in his three starts at Dodger Stadium, but 3-0 with a 0.00 ERA in four road starts.

## Padres 4, Nationals 2

In Washington, Cameron Maybin celebrated his return to the lineup with a pair of hits, and Ian Kennedy pitched seven strong innings as the San Diego Padres beat Washington.

Maybin had been out since rupturing his left biceps in spring training. The center fielder doubled down the third-base line in his first at-bat, then singled and scored during a two-run sixth.

Kennedy (2-3) gave up three hits, struck out nine and walked none. He retired 16 straight batters at one stretch. Huston Street closed for his ninth save in nine chances.

Ross Detwiler (0-1) lost in relief.

## Giants 4, Indians 1

In San Francisco, Brandon Hicks hit a three-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning as the San Francisco Giants completed a three-game sweep over Cleveland.

Buster Posey led off with a single against Cory Allen (2-1) and pinch-runner Gregor Blanco went to second on Juan Perez's sacrifice bunt. Pablo Sandoval struck out and Brandon Crawford drew an intentional walk, setting up Hicks' home run.

Sergio Romo (2-0) pitched a scoreless inning to get the victory.

Giants starter Ryan Vogelsong threw seven shutout innings, giving up two hits.

## White Sox 9, Rays 2

In Chicago, Jose Abreu drove in four runs and set a major league rookie record for RBIs through the end of April as the Chicago White Sox beat the Tampa Bay Rays.

Abreu, who had a two-run home run in the sixth and a two-run single in the seventh, has 31 RBIs. Albert Pujols had the previous RBI mark of 27 in 2001.

The homer was his major league-leading 10th and extended his own record for home runs by a rookie through April.

In his major league debut, Scott Carroll (1-0) gave up two runs, one earned, in 7 1-3 innings after he was called up from Triple-A Charlotte to fill in for injured ace Chris Sale.

Rays starter David Price (3-2) allowed eight runs, six earned, in six innings.

Trailing 1-0, the White Sox scored five runs in the sixth and four runs in the seventh.

The Rays committed four errors in the sixth. Gordon Beckham reached on an error and scored from second when Price threw away the ball after fielding Marcus Semien's bunt single. Adam Eaton scored when right fielder Wil Myers fumbled the ball after Price's throwing error.

## Yankees 3, Angels 2

In New York, Mark Teixeira hit a tying homer and Jacoby Ellsbury scored the go-ahead run thanks to a passed ball and wild pitch in the eighth inning, sending New York past Los Angeles.

Masahiro Tanaka struck out a season-high 11, including Mike Trout twice, and overcame an early bout of wildness in a pitchers' duel with Angels right-hander Garrett Richards. Neither starter received a decision, leaving both undefeated this year.

Adam Warren (1-1) struck out two in 1 2-3 scoreless innings. David Robertson worked the ninth for his fourth save and second in two days.

The Yankees took two of three in the series and have won 10 of 14 overall.

David Freese homered for the Angels, who went 4-5 on a tough road trip to Detroit, Washington and New York.

## Blue Jays 7, Red Sox 1

In Toronto, Melky Cabrera, one of a record six players from the Dominican Republic in Toronto's starting lineup, hit a go-ahead double as the Blue Jays ended a season-worst four-game losing streak.

The first four hitters in Toronto's lineup were all from the Dominican Republic: shortstop Jose Reyes, outfielders Cabrera and Jose Bautista and first baseman Edwin Encarnacion.

Juan Francisco served as the designated hitter, batting sixth, and outfielder Moises Sierra batted seventh.

Esmil Rogers, the seventh Dominican player on Toronto's 25-man roster, struck out the side in the ninth.

R.A. Dickey (2-3) won for the first time in four starts.

Jon Lester (2-4) allowed four runs and five hits in seven innings. He walked none, struck out seven and threw a season-high 122 pitches.

Brett Lawrie homered, doubled and drove in two runs as the Blue Jays avoided their first sweep against Boston since June 2011.

## Mariners 6, Rangers 5

In Seattle, Kyle Seager hit a pair of home runs, including a three-run shot in the eighth, to lead Seattle over Texas.

Seager has five home runs in four games, a power surge that started with a two-homer game against the Astros on Wednesday. He's also had at least two hits in all four games, tying a career-best streak.

Seager led off the seventh inning with his first home run and then gave Seattle the lead with his two-out bomb down the right field line in the eighth off Alexi Ogando (1-2). The comeback victory also gave the Mariners their first home series win against Texas since September 2012.

Danny Farquhar (1-0) pitched the eighth to earn the win and Fernando Rodney closed out the ninth for his fifth save.

Rangers starter Matt Harrison made his first appearance in more than a year, giving up two runs on three hits in six innings.

## Royals 9, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, Omar Infante homered and tied a career high with six RBIs, and James Shields allowed just three hits over seven innings as Kansas City coasted over Baltimore.

Nori Aoki scored three runs for the Royals, who took two of three from Baltimore to conclude a 3-4 road trip that began in Cleveland. Kansas City is 12-0 when scoring at least four runs and 0-12 when scoring three runs or fewer.

Infante hit a run-scoring groundout in the first inning, a sacrifice fly in the third, a two-run double in the fifth and a two-run shot in the seventh. He entered with one home run and 11 RBIs in 21 games.

Shields (3-2) allowed two runs, struck out six and walked two in winning his third straight start. The right-hander gave up only an infield hit in the first five innings and improved to 10-7 lifetime against Baltimore, including 7-2 at Camden Yards.

Nelson Cruz hit his seventh homer for the Orioles, who finished with five hits. Before the game, Baltimore put slugger Chris Davis on the 15-day disabled list with a left oblique strain.

Miguel Gonzalez (1-2) gave up four runs, three earned, and six hits in six innings.

## Astros 5, Athletics 1

In Houston, Collin McHugh allowed two hits over 8 2-3 stellar innings as Houston beat Oakland.

McHugh (2-0) followed up his first outing where he struck out 12 and allowed three hits in 6 2-3 innings at Seattle on Tuesday with another dominant performance.

He struck out seven and walked three, allowing one run in the longest outing of his career. His previous longest outing had been seven innings on Aug. 23, 2012 against Colorado when he was a member of the New York Mets.

After the first, McHugh retired 23 of the next 24 batters, including 19 straight before Brandon Moss was hit by a pitch with two outs in the ninth. Moss stole second and came around to score on Alberto Callaspo's single—McHugh's first run allowed in 15 1-3 innings this season.

Raul Valdes got the final out to complete the two hitter.

# Noh shows nerve in first PGA Tour triumph

**AVONDALE, La.** (AP)—Seung-Yul Noh was in danger of losing his PGA Tour card late last season.

Now the 22-year-old South Korean is eligible for the Players Championship next month—not to mention next year's Masters—thanks to the nerve he showed in capturing his maiden tour triumph at the Zurich Classic.

"Dreams come true," Noh said after his 1-under 71 Sunday gave him a two-stroke win worth $1.22 million. "When I started at 7 playing golf, I dreamed of always playing (on the) PGA Tour ... or playing any major, especially the Masters."

Noh deftly navigated wind gusts up to 30 mph and showed little trouble maintaining his composure while playing in the final group with Keegan Bradley, a former PGA Championship winner.

"Last whole season - very disappointing," Noh said. "So it was (a) very good experience for my game. I'm mentally stronger, so I don't get nervous."

Noh is in his third year on the tour, but finished outside the top 125 on the money list last season, forcing him to play in Web.com Tour Finals events to retain his tour card. In 77 previous PGA Tour starts, Noh never finished better than a fourth-place tie at the 2012 AT&T National.

The Zurich Classic marked his first lead through three rounds, but his chance at victory looked tenuous when he made his first bogey of the tournament on the first hole of his final round.

One hole later, Bradley made birdie to pull into a tie for first.

"Very challenging today out there, especially playing with Keegan, a major champion, and heavy wind," Noh said.

But Bradley slipped down the leaderboard with a bogey on the fifth hole and a triple bogey on the sixth, while Noh remained steady enough to hold off the remaining challengers.

Noh needed some clutch shots on the back nine. They included a chip out of a grassy downhill lie on the edge of a bunker on 13, which hit the flag on a bounce, setting up a routine birdie putt. On 16, with the wind in his face, Noh landed his approach 3 feet from the hole to set up his last birdie. He then made a 14-foot par putt on 17 to assure a two-shot cushion on the final hole, pumping his fist afterward.

When Noh wrapped up his victory with a par putt on 18, fellow South Korean players Y.E. Yang and Charlie Wi charged toward him, dousing him with bottled beer. Noh smiled, removed his hat, held out his arms and soaked it all in.

Noh also knew he achieved another goal of providing some joy to a nation that has been reeling since a passenger ship capsized April 16, leaving more than 300 missing or dead.

"Hopefully, they'll be happy," said Noh, who wore black and yellow ribbons on his white golf hat to honor victims of the ferry accident.

Noh had seized the third-round lead while becoming the first to play 54 holes at TPC Louisiana without a bogey. His 19-under 269 for all four rounds made him the seventh first-time PGA Tour winner in the last 10 years in the New Orleans event.

Andrew Svoboda and Robert Streb tied for second. Svoboda had a 69. Streb shot 70, including an eagle on the second hole, and was one shot off the lead after a birdie on 8. However, his tee shot on the par-3 ninth hole landed in water, and he made double-bogey.

Jeff Overton, who briefly pulled within a stroke of Noh on the back nine, had a 70 to finish fourth at 16 under.

Bradley wound up with a 75 to tie for eighth at 13 under.

On Saturday, Bradley worked his way into the final group, two strokes behind Noh, with a 65. His slide on Sunday began when he missed a par putt from less than 2 feet on the fifth hole, and followed that up by hitting his drive into the water on No. 6.

"I actually played pretty well," Bradley said. "Just made one bad swing on 6 and had a bunch of lip-outs."

Overton closed to one stroke after his 20-foot birdie putt on 10, only to bogey 11.

AP

Noh Seung-yul, right, of South Korea, is congratulated by caddy Scott Sajtinac on the 18th green after winning the Zurich Classic golf tournament at TPC Louisiana in Avondale, La., Sunday, April 27, 2014.

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**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Atlanta | 17 | 7 | .708 | – |
| New York | 14 | 11 | .560 | 3½ |
| Washington | 14 | 12 | .538 | 4 |
| Philadelphia | 13 | 12 | .520 | 4½ |
| Miami | 11 | 14 | .440 | 6½ |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Milwaukee | 18 | 7 | .720 | – |
| St. Louis | 14 | 12 | .538 | 4½ |
| Cincinnati | 11 | 14 | .440 | 7 |
| Pittsburgh | 10 | 16 | .385 | 8½ |
| Chicago | 8 | 16 | .333 | 9½ |

**West Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| San Francisco | 15 | 10 | .600 | – |
| Colorado | 14 | 12 | .538 | 1½ |
| Los Angeles | 14 | 12 | .538 | 1½ |
| San Diego | 12 | 14 | .462 | 3½ |
| Arizona | 8 | 20 | .286 | 8½ |

*BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS*

## AKIMARU

*From Page 28*

Two other SSC senior members and one junior completed the Top 5. Junior swimmer Taiga Sato came in at third place with his 42:38, while seniors Christian Villacrusis and David Boyer placed fourth and fifth, respectively, after logging 42:39 and 43:14.

Thirty-five others completed the crossing with 11 of them doing the Escape from Managaha for the first time. Among the 11 first-timers, Britta Baechler was the fastest after clocking in 51:58. Two others finished their debut race under one hour with Eran Sheriff posting 53:00 and Kathy Ruszala timing in at 54:35. Other first time finishers were Atsuko Sato (1:01:07), Bruce Lorange (1:03:08), Tomomi Sato (1:07:12), Yurie Lorange (1:07:23), Athena Andrews (1:09:49), Avra Heller (1:11:50), Zach Frey (1:12:11), and Rommel Tiosejo (1:12:16).

Meanwhile, six other SSC swimmers barged into the Top 10. Lennosuki Suzuki, a junior member of the club, placed sixth with his 48:58, behind World Resort lifeguard Dhurba Learlei (45:35). Another SSC junior Rinto Takahashi was ranked eighth after timing in at 49:09, and was followed by Jinnosuke Suzuki (49:10), Jinju Thompson (51:37) and Taiyo Akimaru and R.J. Pierce, who logged similar times of 51:40.

Completing the finishers list were Richard Villagomez (53:24), Tammy Winkfield (53:39), Kaoru Takahashi (54:40), Eric Cooke (55:27), Brad Ruszala (55:27), Jacoby Winkfield (56:40), Paul Plunkett (58:08), Caleb Leung (1:02:22), Roy Adsit (1:02:25), Princess Garcia (1:04:39), Jerryson Mani (1:04:51), Albert Deleon Guerrero (1:04:51), Carol-Lynn Pierce (1:07:13), Steven Johnson (1:09:08), Jinie Thompson (1:11:09), Colin Thompson (1:11:39), and Steven Boyer (1:14:31).

SSC would like to thank World Resort lifeguards and kayakers Jun Lee, Ann Jordan, Derek Chambers, and Ron Wright for ensuring the safety of the participants.

## ROGOLIFOI

*From Page 28*

Brewers' Ton Leon Guerrero (.294), the Yankees' Pat Alepuyo (.286), and the Brewers' Byron Kaipat (.278) and Jun Rabauliman (.267).

In the pitching race, Cepeda bested nine others after recording a 0.31 ERA. The Brewers ace allowed only one run in 28.2 innings pitched to beat the Fielders' Aaron Benavente and teammate Leonard Sablan. Benavente notched a 1,29 ERA off three earned runs allowed in 21 innings, while Sablan rounded out the Top 3 after giving up two earned runs in 13 innings.

The pitching leaders were based on 12 or more innings pitched. The Fielders' Joe Palacios finished tied for fourth with teammate Tony Benavente as they registered similar 2.13 ERAs. Palacios allowed six earned runs in 25.1 innings, while Benavente gave up only three in 12.2 innings.

Completing the pitching leaders list were the Yankees' Manny Cabrera (2.25), the Tigers' Frankie Lieto (2.88), the Yankees' Kevin Kapileo (3.00), the Northern Starz's Ben Lizama, Jr. (3.94), and the Brewers' Thomas Camacho (4.15).

Lieto, who led the ERA category twice, settled for the top honors in the strikeouts division with his 43. He foiled Cepeda's bid for a second individual award, as the latter collected only 36 strikeouts. Palacios and Camacho had 26 and 25, respectively.

In the runs race, the Northern Starz's Lamarc Iguel and Omar shared first place after earning 15 each. They won over Northern Starz's Juan Iguel (14), Rogolifoi (14), and Diego Camacho (13). For the doubles contest, the trophy will go to the Tigers' Jesse Yamagishi, who gathered five doubles and placed ahead of Ton Leon Guerrero and Jared Sablan, who tallied four apiece.

In triples, Saralu is the champion with two, beating 21 others who had only one each. Saralu is also the RBI king after earning 17 and defeating Jared Sablan (10), Brian Camacho (10), and Rogolifoi (9).

## LEINA

*From Page 28*

tative in the regionals last season and this year, she will be joined by two other teammates—Julie Sanchez and Domi DiNallo.

The CSU-Pueblo sophomore was selected to the First Team All-RMAC squad, along with Sanchez, while DiNallo made it to the second team. According to CSU-Pueblo Athletics' website, members of the elite group were picked based on GolfStat criteria (combining both fall and spring seasons) and players selected were divided into five-member first, second, and third teams.

Meanwhile, Kim and Sanchez towed CSU-Pueblo to its second championship in RMAC in three years. They teamed up with DiNallo, Michaela Breit, and Katie Maglia and combined for a two-round score of 621 in the RMAC Championship held on April 21 and 22.

Kim and company won by 15 strokes against Colorado Mesa State University, which tallied only 636 in two rounds. Eight other schools joined the championship. The CSU-Pueblo quintet took a five-shot lead in the first round against Colorado Christian, 313-318, and smoked its competition after a solid 308 in the second and final round.

In the individual rankings, Kim was tied for third with Adam State University's Rachel Dyess, as they carded identical two-round scores of 153, just one stroke behind Sanchez and Katrina Mendez of Colorado Christian University. Kim fired a third-best 7-over par 79 in the opening round and played better in the final round with a 2-over par 74 to finish in the Top 3.

# PIC Hafa Adai 5K Run Part 1

**PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO**

Runners push hard as they near the finish line.

Tyce Mister, right, and his son Dylan stop running to pose for a photo.

Two runners sprint to the finish line of last Saturday's PIC Hafa Adai 5K Run.

Kobe Mendoza tries to catch up with two female runners.

Natalie Hill races in a grass skirt, while two male runners chase her.

Seiya Eda is splashed with blue cornstarch as he heads to the finish line.

Zumba instructor Elitza Stoilova shows some steps to partcicipants.

Runners stay close on their way to the finish line.

Participant warm-up for the race by doing Zumba moves.

Runners throw multi-colored cornstarch in the air before heading out to the course.

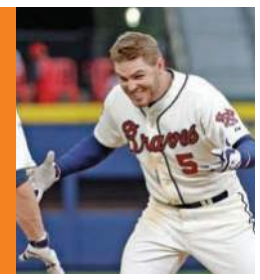
Warriors top Clippers 118-97, even series 2-2

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Freeman singles in 10th, Braves edge Reds, 1-0

PAGE 25





# Leina reigns supreme in collegiate league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former CNMI junior golfer Leina Kim did it again, winning the 2013-2014 Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Golfer of the Year award at the conclusion of the RMAC Championship last week at the WigWam Resort in Litchfield Park, Arizona.

Kim, who bagged the coveted individual award in her rookie year with the Colorado State University-Pueblo, made it back-to-back after posting impressive numbers in her second season at RMAC. The RMAC Freshman of the Year recorded a 75.1 stroke average and 95.2 head-to-head winning percentage in nine tournaments with the ThunderWolves. She topped three tournaments this season, had Top 10 finishes in eight of CSU's nine competitions and six Top 5. With her domination this season, Kim was the lone golfer in RMAC to be named Golfer of the Week five times.

Besides getting her second straight RMAC Golfer of the Year award, Kim, who was named 2013 NMASA Female Athlete of the Year, also earned a slot to next month's NCAA Division II West Super Regional. It will be her second time to compete in the regionals after placing third in her debut last season. Kim was CSU-Pueblo's lone represen-

See LEINA on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Former CNMI junior golfer Leina Kim poses at the scoreboard after shooting a school record 69 in one of her tournaments for the 2013-2014 season in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Tigers' Ian Rogolifoi, seen here at first base against the Brewers' Byron Kaipat, won the batting race in the 2014 Saipan Baseball League that concluded its regular season last Friday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

## Rogolifoi takes batting title; Cepeda rules pitching race

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Tigers' Ian Rogolifoi bagged the batting crown, while the Brewers' Vince Cepeda took the pitching title as the regulation season of the 2014 Saipan Baseball League came to a close last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Rogolifoi posted a batting average of .452 after his Tigers completed the double-round robin elimination with a win against the D-9ers last Friday. Rogolifoi went 14-for-31 in 10 games and was the lone player in the batting leaderboard to average at least .400.

Runner-up Tyrone Omar of the Brewers registered a batting average of .394 after going 13-for-33, while his teammate Nokkie Saralu finished third off a 13-for-34 performance at bat and .382 average. Rounding out the Top 15 batters, which were based on 30 or more times at bat, were the Yankees' Brian Camacho (.378), the Fielders' Jared Sablan (.354), the Brewers' Diego Camacho (.333), the Tigers' Rocco Reyes (.324), the Yankees' Chris Camacho (.313), the Tigers' Mark Toves (.306) and Tom Guerrero (.300), the Northern Starz's Jeremy Atalig (.297), the

See ROGOLIFOI on Page 26

# Akimaru, Chentsova fastest 'Escapees'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru and Victoria Chentsova topped the men's and women's divisions of last Saturday's Escape from Managaha.

The 13-year-old Akimaru finished the 2.4-kilometer crossing from Saipan's famous island to Micro Beach in 36:50, while the 16-year-old Chentsova submitted 37:11. Both times were faster than their 2013 winning marks of 38:09.10 (Akimaru) and 38:09.31 (Chentsova). The two members of SSC's senior group ruled Escape from Managaha for the last four years.

See AKIMARU on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Top 5 finishers of last Saturday's Escape from Managaha, from left, Victoria Chentsova, Kento Akimaru, David Boyer, Taiga Sato, and Christian Villacrusis pose for a group photo after completing the crossing.